



The Space Race

by Jonathan Morris

THE DOCTOR: COLIN BAKER

Space-time traveller.

PERI: NICOLA BRYANT

Space-time traveller's companion.

LARISA PETROV:

Female scientist and spy. 30.

GENERAL MIKHAIL LEONOV (also GENERAL PATERSON):

Male soldier. 50

CAPTAIN ALEXEI KOZLOV (also LIEUTENANT ANDREWS):

Male soldier. 40.

SERGEANT LEONID KURAKIN (also SCIENTIST):

Male soldier. 25.

MARINKA TALANOV/LAIKA:

Female cosmonaut. 35. Dog with voice of female cosmonaut.

MAINTENANCE WORKERS 1 & 2 (SC 43), FEMALE WORKER (SC 45)

+ SOLDIERS, DOGS, ANIMALS, SCIENTISTS, WORKERS, RADIO ANNOUNCERS.

DIRECTOR: NICHOLAS BRIGGS

SCRIPT EDITOR: ALAN BARNES

PRODUCER: DAVID RICHARDSON

EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS: NICHOLAS BRIGGS & JASON HAIGH-ELLERY

PART ONE

SCENE 1. INT. MISSION CONTROL.

FX: IT'S 1963. COMPUTERS HUM AND BLEEP. MUTTERING AND THROAT-CLEARING OF ANXIOUS, CHAIN-SMOKING SCIENTISTS AND MILITARY. A RADIO IS BLEEPING A LACK-OF-SIGNAL TONE.

LARISA

This is Baikonur control calling Vostok seven. Do you read? I repeat. This is Baikonur control calling Vostok seven.

MIKHAIL

Why isn't she responding?

LARISA

I don't know. Weather interference, radiation from the Van Allen Belt, could be anything. We are stumbling blindly into the - (dark)

FX: SHE'S INTERRUPTED BY A RESPONSE VIA RADIO. HEAVY IN STATIC BUT CLEAR ENOUGH SO WE CAN MAKE OUT THE WORDS. BRIEF DELAY. EACH CALL VIA RADIO ENDS WITH A BEEP.

MARINKA (VIA RADIO)

This is Cosmonaut Talanov, receiving you loud and clear.

FX: GENERAL RELIEF, SIGHS AND SOME APPLAUSE FROM SCIENTISTS.

LARISA

What's your status?

MARINKA (VIA RADIO)

All systems functioning normally. Is that you, Larisa?

LARISA

Yes. You gave me quite a fright, and dragged me out of bed. How are you feeling?

MARINKA (VIA RADIO)

I feel fine, very fine. Heart-rate one hundred and ten. I am a little nervous, I think.

LARISA

That's just to be expected. Prepare to make lunar orbit insertion burn in twelve minutes, from now.

MARINKA (VIA RADIO)

Twelve minutes, check.

LARISA

You have two minutes until radio silence. When you become the first person ever to set eyes on the far side of the moon.

FX: MOVE CONTINUOUSLY INTO THE CAPSULE DURING THE ABOVE LINE.

SCENE 2. INT. CAPSULE.

FX: INSIDE THE CAPSULE, EERIE SILENCE. MARINKA IS WEARING A SPACE HELMET SO HER BREATHING AND AIR VENTILATION IS VERY CLOSE.

MARINKA

Looking forward to getting some peace and quiet.

LARISA: (VIA RADIO)

Do you have a visual on the lunar surface yet?

MARINKA

(STRUGGLES TO MOVE) Not yet. It is just black outside. Like the nights back in Irkutsk.

FX: DURING THIS LINE MOVE BACK TO MISSION CONTROL.

SCENE 3. INT. MISSION CONTROL.

LARISA

You should be flying into daylight side in just over a minute. Don't forget to take some photographs for us. Please commence final system check.

MARINKA (VIA RADIO)

Commencing system check.

MIKHAIL

This is an historic day, Miss Petrov! The latest in a long line of Soviet achievements. After Laika, the first animal in space, Yuri Gagarin, the first man in space, and Valentina Tereshkova, the first woman, now, the first human being to orbit the moon: Cosmonaut Marinka Talanov, on November the tenth, ninety sixty-three!

LARISA

(QUIET) Another propaganda victory for Comrade Khrushchev.

MIKHAIL

I'm sorry, I didn't quite catch that, Miss - (Petrov)

FX: HE'S INTERRUPTED BY ANOTHER RADIO MESSAGE.

MARINKA (VIA RADIO)

Baikonur Control... I have malfunction on capsule life support. I repeat. Malfunction. (FX: STATIC INCREASES) (System shutdown)

LARISA

What? What sort of malfunction? (BEAT) Marinka?!

FX: INTERFERENCES INCREASES, FOLLOWING LINES ONLY OCCASIONALLY INTELLIGIBLE. ALARMED MUTTERING AND BUSTLE AMONGST SCIENTISTS.

MARINKA (VIA RADIO)

... Complete system shutdown... capsule power failure... no secondary supply... cockpit pressure dropping to nought point five. I can't - (breathe) My God! (BOWSH-HAY-MOY)

FX: LINK GOES TO STATIC, THEN BLEEPING OF NO SIGNAL.

LARISA

It's no good. We've lost her.

MIKHAIL

Is she dead?

LARISA

We have no way of knowing, not for another forty-five minutes.
The capsule has now passed behind the moon.

4. EXT. STEPPE.

FX: ICY WIND. TARDIS LANDS, DOOR OPENS, OUR HEROES EMERGE.

PERI

(SHIVER) I don't believe it! It's even colder outside!

DOCTOR

Yes. The circuit that maintains the TARDIS's temperature appears to have, er... stopped working.

PERI

Thanks, Doctor. If you hadn't told me, however would I have guessed?

DOCTOR

Sarcasm will hardly improve our predicament, Peri.

PERI

So why haven't you just replaced this circuit? Oh, no, don't tell me. You don't have a replacement.

DOCTOR

Not as such, no. I should've learned my lesson last time.

PERI

Last time? This has happened before?

DOCTOR

Once before, yes.

PERI

So what did you do that time?

DOCTOR

As I recall I spent several months travelling across China with Marco Polo.

PERI

So not a lot of help to us now?

DOCTOR

No. But given time, and suitable facilities, I should be able to effect a repair.

PERI

Good luck finding an electrical store because, in case you hadn't noticed, we're standing in the middle of a desert!

DOCTOR

Yes. I take your point.

PERI

Where are we, anyway? Looks like Nevada, or Colorado.

DOCTOR

Not sure. Unfortunately the TARDIS's navigational systems are, er... also dependent upon this circuit.

PERI

You mean we can't leave?

DOCTOR

I'm afraid not.

PERI

Right, well, I don't know about you, but I'm going back inside. To see if there's anything I can burn to keep warm.

DOCTOR

Yes, that might be – (SEES SOMETHING) No, wait. Peri!

PERI

What?

DOCTOR

Over there. Lights. Now where do I keep my telescope? In my other coat? No. (FX: LOCATES AND OPENS TELESCOPE) Ah-ha!

PERI

What is it?

DOCTOR

A car, about a mile away. A jeep! It appears to have crashed.

PERI

But if the headlights are still on, it must've only just happened. There might be injured people inside.

DOCTOR

Precisely. And we can hardly leave them out here to freeze to death. Come on, Peri! We're needed!

FX: THEY HEAD OFF.

5. EXT. STEPPE.

FX: DOCTOR AND PERI APPROACH CAR. ITS ENGINES ARE STEAMING.

PERI

I don't get it. Why did it crash into a ditch, on an empty, straight road, with nothing else for miles around?

DOCTOR

I don't think it did. Not with any force, at least. The bonnet hasn't buckled, nor have the bumpers.

PERI

The 'bumpers'? Oh, you mean the fenders.

DOCTOR

Yes. The 'fenders'. (PULLS) Door's jammed.. Give me a moment. (EFFORT)

FX: HE OPENS A DOOR.

PERI

(SMALL YELP OF SURPRISE) Is he dead?

DOCTOR

I'm afraid so. And the woman in the passenger seat too.

PERI

They've been shot.

DOCTOR

(GRIM) Indeed. Peri, can you take a look in the back, while I try to find out who these people were..

PERI

If you insist.

FX: PERI PULLS BACK A TARPAULIN AND CLIMBS IN.

PERI

(CLAMBERING) Oh my... there's another woman here, well, she's about my age. Or was. She... she's been shot too. Wearing a military uniform, with a hammer and sickle. She's Russian!

FX: DOCTOR PULLS OFF JACKETS, DISCOVERS PAPERS.

DOCTOR

Or Soviet, at least. According to their identity papers, these people were Doctor Kristina Pushkin, and Doctor Grigory Kalashnikov.

PERI

Kalashnikov? Like the rifles?

DOCTOR

Like the rifles. He was an astrophysicist, born in nineteen-nineteen. She was a physician, born in nineteen forty. What about *your* woman?

PERI

I don't know, she doesn't seem to have any ID on her. It's a bit hard to tell in this light.

DOCTOR

Yes. It is getting dark, isn't it. It'll be night soon. Oh well, needs must...

FX: HE REMOVES THE BODIES' COATS

PERI

Doctor, what are you doing?

DOCTOR

Taking their coats. They no longer have any need of them, whereas they may prevent us from developing hypothermia.

PERI

Are you sure that's wise? We can always get some more clothes back in the... (TRAILS OFF, SEEN SOMETHING)

DOCTOR

Yes, but the TARDIS is a mile away, and if we are where I think we are, then night falls very quickly.

PERI

(QUIET BUT INSISTENT) Doctor.

DOCTOR

Yes?

FX: QUIET TICKING, WHIRRING NOISE FROM NOW ON.

PERI

Some sticks of dynamite covered in wires making a ticking noise, that would probably be a bomb, wouldn't it?

DOCTOR

Yes.

PERI

It's under one of the seats... and the clock says there's about twenty seconds left.

DOCTOR

Peri, get out of there now!

FX: PERI DOES.

PERI

(CLAMBERING) You don't have to tell me twice! Can you defuse it?

FX: DOCTOR CLAMBERS OUT.

DOCTOR

Not in this light, there's no time. We have to run. Run!

FX: THEY RUN. WE NO LONGER HEAR TICKING AS WE TRAVEL WITH THEM.

PERI

(RUNNING) Back to the TARDIS?

DOCTOR

(RUNNING) Just as far away as we can, we don't have – (any)

FX: BOMB EXPLODES DESTROYING JEEP

DOCTOR & PERI

(KNOCKED OVER BY BLAST)

FX: JEEP ON FIRE IN MID-DISTANCE.

DOCTOR

(HELPING HER UP) Peri, are you all right?

PERI

(GETTING UP) Grazed knees but basically fine. You?

DOCTOR

Oh, you know me, I'm indestructible. Here, take this coat.

FX: SHE DOES, WRAPPING UP.

PERI

But why plant a bomb, if everyone in the car was already dead?

DOCTOR

I think their intention was to remove any evidence of foul play.

PERI

Right. To make it look like they were killed in the crash!

DOCTOR

Precisely. And now there's nothing left to suggest otherwise. Just three thoroughly cremated corpses.

PERI

There were nearly five.

DOCTOR

Yes. And nothing piques my curiosity like a brush with death.

PERI

Don't tell me. You want to find out who did this and bring them to justice?

DOCTOR

Well, don't you?

PERI

Sure. We can do it first thing, tomorrow. But in the meantime, how about we get back to the TARDIS and – (light a)

DOCTOR

No time for that, Peri. Look! Someone's coming.

FX: DISTANT VEHICLE APPROACHING.

6. INT. JEEP. (IN MOTION)

FX: INSIDE THE JEEP, MOTOR RUNNING. RADIO SWITCHES ON.

LEONID

Captain, this is Sergeant Kurakin reporting, over.

ALEXEI (VIA RADIO)

I hear you, Sergeant. What is it? Over.

LEONID

Sir, I'm on the Kyzylorda road, and there is a plume of smoke. It is a Gaz sixty-nine on fire, over.

ALEXI (VIA RADIO)

Any sign of its occupants, over?

LEONID

No, they must've been killed in the – no, wait. I can see two of them, they're alive! Over.

ALEXEI (VIA RADIO)

Then bring them in, Sergeant. Out.

FX: RADIO OFF. JEEP PULLS UP, ENGINE STILL TICKING OVER.

LEONID

(CALLING OUT) You all right, out there?

DOCTOR

(APPROACHING) Hello, yes! I wonder if you could help us –

LEONID

It's all right, we've been expecting you. (FX: DOOR OPENS) Get in.

PERI

What?

LEONID

In the back. Unless you want to die of exposure. It gets chilly out here on the steppe. Low as minus forty, some nights.

DOCTOR

Then we're very fortunate you found us.

FX: DOCTOR AND PERI CLAMBER IN. CLOSE DOORS.

PERI

Yes, this has really been our lucky night.

LEONID

What happened to you?

DOCTOR

Ah, we swerved to avoid another vehicle on the road, and, well, you can guess the rest.

LEONID

There was no-one else in the car?

DOCTOR

No, just the two of us. You said we were expected?

LEONID

That is why Captain Kozlov sent me out here, to find you when you did not arrive on schedule.

DOCTOR

Of course, yes. I'm very glad you found us, Sergeant...?

LEONID

Kurakin. Sergeant Leonid Kurakin. You have no other belongings?

DOCTOR

No, I'm afraid we only have the clothes we're wearing, everything else was destroyed in the fire.

LEONID

Then there is no point in us remaining here.

FX: HE GUNS ENGINE, DRIVES.

DOCTOR

(OVER ENGINE) How long, do you think, until we get there?

LEONID

(OVER ENGINE) To the Cosmodrome? About half an hour. Maybe give you a few glasses of Stoli to warm you up, eh?

PERI

Sounds great. (WHISPER) Doctor. What the hell are we doing, pretending to be, who was it? Doctor Kalashnikov and Doctor Pushkin?

DOCTOR

(WHISPER) Staying alive. We have their identity papers,

everything we need to prove we are who we say we are.

PERI

(WHISPER) Yes, and what if we meet someone who knew the real Kalashnikov and Pushkin?

DOCTOR

(WHISPER) That may pose a small problem, I admit.

PERI

(WHISPER) A small problem? We're in Soviet Russia. If they find out where I'm from, they'll have me shot!

DOCTOR

(WHISPER) Then I recommend you don't tell them. And this isn't Soviet Russia.

PERI

(WHISPER) It isn't? Then where the hell are we?

DOCTOR

(WHISPER) Kazakhstan.

PERI

(FORGETTING TO WHISPER) Kazakhstan!

LEONID

Hey, what are you muttering about back there?

DOCTOR

We were just talking about your country, what a beautiful place it is.

LEONID

It's not my country, I'm Kirov born and bred. I wouldn't spend a single second in this dump if I didn't have to.

FX: THEY DRIVE ON.

SCENE 7. INT. MISSION CONTROL.

FX: SCIENTISTS FRETTING IN B/G, CHATTER.

MIKHAIL

If Talanov is dead, you know who will be held responsible, Miss Petrov.

LARISA

At the moment I'm rather more concerned for the well-being of my cosmonaut than my career. If she has died then I'm sure you will make sure no-one ever learns about it.

ALEXEI

(APPROACHING) Excuse me, General Leonov?

MIKHAIL

Yes, Captain?

ALEXEI

The two scientists from Moscow have arrived.

LARISA

What scientists? I asked for – (no)

MIKHAIL

Not my idea, Miss Petrov. They were sent here on the orders of the **presidium** to share their "specialist knowledge". Captain. Have them brought here without delay. We may soon be in need of their assistance.

8. INT. JEEP.

FX: JEEP IS HALTED, ENGINE TURNING. DRIVER'S DOOR CLOSED.

LEONID

(CLIMBING BACK IN) Nearly there. I have been ordered to take you straight to mission control.

DOCTOR

Excellent news, looking forward to it!

FX: JEEP DRIVES ON.

PERI

(WHISPER) Mission control? What is this? The Soviet Cape Canaveral?

DOCTOR

(WHISPER) More or less. If I know my history – as I invariably do – this is the Baikonur Cosmodrome. A town built in the middle of the Kazakh steppe.

PERI

(WHISPER) Modelled on downtown Detroit, by the look of it.

DOCTOR

(WHISPER) Yes, well, it probably looks less foreboding during daylight.

PERI

(WHISPER) You think? Doctor, that guy you found, how old was he?

DOCTOR

(WHISPER) Mid-forties, why?

PERI

(WHISPER) Born in nineteen-nineteen – which makes it the mid-sixties. The height of the cold war!

DOCTOR

(WHISPER) So?

PERI

(WHISPER) So right now this is one of the most high-security – not to mention dangerous – places on the planet! Particularly for someone of my personal circumstances.

DOCTOR

(WHISPER) Then you should be grateful, Kristina, for a chance to see how the other half live!

9. INT. MISSION CONTROL.

LARISA

Capsule emerging from moon shadow... now.

FX: LACK OF SIGNAL BLEEPING.

LARISA

This is Baikonur control calling Vostok seven. Do you read? I repeat. This is Baikonur control calling Vostok seven.

FX: BLEEPING.

MIKHAIL

Nothing. We've lost her. You've lost her.

LARISA

I'm not giving up yet. Check transceiver feedback.

FX: RADIO STATIC TURNS INTO BRIEF, SHRILL BURST OF FEEDBACK.

SCIENTIST

Transceiver feedback established.

MIKHAIL

What does that mean?

LARISA

It means she can hear us, even if we can't hear her. (INTO RADIO) This is Baikonur control calling Vostok seven! Do you read? Marinka? (SHE CONTINUES IN B/G)

FX: DOOR OPENS, DOCTOR, PERI, ALEXEI AND LEONID ENTER.

DOCTOR

Ah, this would be mission control, would it? Fascinating!

ALEXEI

Sir, the two scientists from Moscow.

MIKHAIL

Thank you, Captain Kozlov. Welcome, comrades. I am General Leonov, commanding officer of the Cosmodrome.

PERI

Pleased to meet you, general.

MIKHAIL

I understand you had some difficulty on your journey –

DOCTOR

Never mind that. By the look of it you're having trouble regaining contact with one of your space capsules, am I right?

MIKHAIL

You are correct. Allow me to introduce Miss Larisa Petrov, our chief scientist.

LARISA

General, this is hardly the time, I am the middle of a very delicate operation –

MIKHAIL

These are the scientists sent by the presidium. Doctor Grigory Kalashnikov. And Doctor Kristina Pushkin.

LARISA

You're Doctor Kalashnikov? And Doctor Pushkin?

DOCTOR

Yes. Why? Is there some problem with that?

LARISA

(SARCASTIC) No, of course not. What could be more helpful than having two scientists I've never heard of interrupting my work?

DOCTOR

What indeed? Tell me, how long has it been since you last made contact with your cosmonaut?

LARISA

Fifty minutes. The capsule has passed behind the moon, you see.

DOCTOR

Has it really? How very impressive.

MIKHAIL

And just before we lost contact with her, Cosmonaut Talanov reported a fault with the life support system.

DOCTOR

I see. And now she's not answering her radio?

LARISA

That's right. But we have transceiver feedback, so – (we)

DOCTOR

- You know you're getting through. Then I suggest you give your cosmonaut a wake-up call.

LARISA

What do you mean?

DOCTOR

Disengage the filter and amplify the signal oscillation to create a burst of feed-back, as loud and high-pitched as possible.

LARISA

It's worth a try. Amplify signal oscillation.

FX: FEEDBACK VIA RADIO INCREASES, BECOMING A WHINE, THEN CUTS OUT. WE HEAR A VOICE VIA THE RADIO, NOT IMMEDIATELY CLEAR.

MARINKA (VIA RADIO)

(WAKING) What is it? What - where am I?

FX: JUBILATION IN MISSION CONTROL

PERI

She's alive!

MIKHAIL

It seems this is your lucky day, Miss Petrov.

LARISA

For all of us. (INTO RADIO) Cosmonaut Talanov. What's your status? Report?

FX: NOTE MARINKA IS LEAVING HER RADIO CHANNEL OPEN ALL THE TIME, NOT SWITCHING IT OFF BETWEEN CONTACTS AS BEFORE (NO BEEP AT END OF LINES VIA RADIO). IT STILL DROPS OUT FREQUENTLY AND HAS TIME DELAY.

MARINKA (VIA RADIO)

Who is this? Who are you?

LARISA

This is Baikonur Control. Are you all right?

MARINKA (VIA RADIO)

(BECOMING MORE AGITATED) I do not understand. I can't see you. Where are you?

LARISA

You reported a fault with the life-support. Please give details.

MARINKA (VIA RADIO)

I do not understand. Where am I? What am I doing here?

FX: DURING THIS LINE MOVE TO CAPSULE.

10. INT. CAPSULE.

LARISA (VIA RADIO)

It's all right, Marinka. You're safe. Please try to stay calm.

MARINKA

Marinka? Who is Marinka? Who are you?

LARISA (VIA RADIO)

Larisa Pushkin. You must remember me?

MARINKA

No. I don't know who you are. But you have to let me out of here!

FX: DURING THIS MOVE BACK TO MISSION CONTROL

11. INT. MISSION CONTROL.

MARINKA (VIA RADIO)

Please let me out of here. Where am I? I don't want to be here anymore. Why have you done this to me? (REPEATS IN B/G AD LIB)

PERI

What's the matter with her?

LARISA

You don't know? I thought you were supposed to be the expert?

PERI

I was consulting my colleague. Doctor Kalashnikov?

DOCTOR

Some sort of stress-induced dissociative disorder, perhaps?

PERI

Yes, that's what I thought. (BLUFFING) Short-term memory loss, probably the result of latent claustrophobia.

LARISA

Or brain damage. If there was a problem with the life-support, and she suffered cerebral hypoxia...

MIKHAIL

That seems more likely. Cosmonaut Talanov was extensively tested. She is not claustrophobic.

MARINKA (VIA RADIO)

Help me. Please. Let me out. Let me out!

DOCTOR

Well she is now. May I? (INTO RADIO) Hello. This is the Doctor.

MARINKA (VIA RADIO)

Who are you?

DOCTOR

A friend. Who wants to help.

MARINKA (VIA RADIO)

You will let me out of here?

DOCTOR

As soon as I can, but I need you to help me first.

MARINKA (VIA RADIO)

No. Let me out first! Let me out now!

MIKHAIL

She's not even aware that she's floating in space.

DOCTOR

Listen to me. I need you to tell me who you are. What's your name?

MARINKA (VIA RADIO)

(INCREASING HYSTERIA) I don't know. I don't know. I don't know!

DOCTOR

You have to calm down. Breathe slowly, can you do that for me?

MARINKA (VIA RADIO)

Yes... I breathe... slowly.

DOCTOR

That's good. Good. Now, just relax, keep calm, and everything will be all right. (OFF RADIO) Miss Pushkin, General Leonov. We have to bring her back to Earth right now.

LARISA

Right now? She's three hundred and fifty thousand kilometres out. It will take at least three days for her to return home.

FX: FADE OUT.

12. INT. CANTEEN.

FX: FADE IN. CUTLERY, SUBDUED CHATTER, PEOPLE COME AND GO, BACKGROUND MILITARY/CLASSICAL MUSIC ON RADIO.

LEONID

Miss Pushkin? Mind if I join you?

PERI

No, not at all. Sergeant Kurakin, isn't it?

LEONID

Leonid, please call me Leonid.

PERI

Only if you call me... Kristina.

LEONID

Kristina. Your quarters, they are comfortable?

PERI

Yeah, fine, thanks. Real home from home.

LEONID

Doctor Kalashnikov, he is also comfortable?

PERI

I wouldn't know. I've barely seen him these last three days. He's spent most of it holed up with Miss Petrov.

LEONID

You don't mind, him spending all his time with another woman?

PERI

Why should I mind? Wait. You're fishing, aren't you?

LEONID

Fishing?

PERI

Trying to find out if the Doctor and me are a couple.

LEONID

Well? Are you?

PERI

No. He's not my type. And the Doctor, well, I'm definitely not his type. He's more interested in his work.

LEONID

And you? Are you also married to your work?

PERI

No, I'm not married, to my work or anyone else. What about you? Do you have a girl back in Kirov?

LEONID

Ah, no. Just my parents. Where are you from? Your accent suggests you are not from Russia.

PERI

No? Where does it suggest I come from?

LEONID

Somewhere in the west, I think.

PERI

The west?

LEONID

Yes. Poland. Or one of the Baltic states, Estonia, Latvia.

PERI

Latvia, yes, that's right.

LEONID

So how does a girl from Latvia end up at Moscow university?

FX: BUZZER ON THE PA SYSTEM SOUNDS

LEONID

I'm sorry, if you will excuse me, I'm due back on guard duty.

PERI

Don't forget to keep warm.

LEONID

I'll do my best. Kristina.

FX: HE GOES

PERI

(QUIETLY, TO HERSELF) You've still got it, Peri. Wherever you go in the universe, there's always one. (FINDS SOMETHING) Hey, Leonid, you left something? Leonid. (READS) Doctor Pushkin...

FX: SHE OPENS LETTER, FINDS KEY, JANGLES IT.

PERI

(QUIETLY) A key... "Research area four. One hour."

FX: SHE GOES.

13. INT. MISSION CONTROL.

FX: LARISA IN RADIO CONTACT WITH CAPSULE. SCIENTISTS IN B/G.

LARISA

You see the red button in front of you?

MARINKA (VIA RADIO)

Red? What is red?

LARISA

The large button. That will replenish your water supply. As I told you two hours ago.

FX: ENDS RADIO CONTACT.

LARISA

It's as if she is a simpleton.

DOCTOR

No. She's been deprived of her autobiographical memories.

LARISA

Deprived?

DOCTOR

(WHILST WORKING ON A GADGET) Something happened to her, on the far side of the moon. Something that affected her mind.

LARISA

Doctor, what is that?

DOCTOR

What?

LARISA

That device you have been working on during my rest periods. Using my laboratory and equipment.

DOCTOR

Oh, just a computer circuit. You don't mind, do you?

LARISA

No, but Captain Kozlov might. He's paranoid about security, if he thought you were making a radio –

DOCTOR

He might take me for a spy?

SCIENTIST

Miss Petrov, Doctor Kalashnikov – it's time.

LARISA

Thank you. All right. Activate remote guidance system.

FX: REGULAR BLEEPING, COMPUTER NOISE, LIKE OLD SPECTRUM GAME.

SCIENTIST

Guidance system activated.

LARISA

Prepare for lateral engine burn to correct course. One hundred percent for –

DOCTOR

Eight seconds. Commencing, three, two, one... now.

SCIENTIST

Commencing lateral engine burn... (FX: BLEEPING CHANGES PITCH, THEN JUST STATIC.) My God. It's not responding. It's not responding!

FX: MILD CONSTERNATION.

14. INT. CORRIDOR.

FX: PERI APPROACHES.

PERI

"Research area four. Authorised personnel only."

FX: UNLOCKS DOOR. SHE ENTERS. FOOTSTEPS ECHO IN HANGAR. SHE'S IN DARKNESS.

PERI

(QUIETLY) Hello? Is anyone there? Hello?

FX: SHE KEEPS ON WALKING, THEN HALTS.

PERI

Spacesuits? Empty spacesuits? (BEAT) I don't believe it. They've only gone and built a -

FX: LIGHTS SLAM ON. THUNK! THUNK! THUNK!

ALEXEI

Lunar landing module, Doctor Pushkin?

PERI

What is this, some sort of secret research project?

ALEXEI

Of course. Didn't you read the sign? Authorised personnel only. You are trespassing. In a restricted area.

PERI

I am a doctor, sent here on the authority of the presidium -

ALEXEI

You don't have to play games with me. I know who you really are.

PERI

You do?

ALEXEI

I know you are not Doctor Kristina Pushkin. Despite what your identity papers may claim.

PERI

Then who am I?

ALEXEI

Who are you? Why, you are a spy, of course.

15. INT. MISSION CONTROL.

FX: RADIO STILL NOT RESPONDING.

DOCTOR

(REWIRING CIRCUITS IN B/G)

LARISA

(TO SCIENTISTS) Keep trying. If the capsule enters the atmosphere at the wrong angle it will burn up or bounce back into space.

FX: MIKHAIL ENTERS.

MIKHAIL

Miss Petrov, what's happening?

LARISA

We've lost contact with the capsule during a critical moment -

MIKHAIL

And what is Doctor Kalashnikov doing?

DOCTOR

Me? Spot of rewiring. You see, it appears the problem is at our end.

LARISA

Our end?

DOCTOR

(CLIMBS OUT FROM UNDER DESK) Our signal isn't getting through. It's not even being broadcast. (FX: PRESSING SWITCHES) But if I can re-route it through the second satellite dish -

MIKHAIL

What do you mean it's not getting through? Another malfunction?

DOCTOR

I suppose that's a possibility. Seems a trifle unlikely, though.

LARISA

Then what are you saying? It was sabotaged?

DOCTOR

(FX: FINISHES) We have more important things to worry about right now. Miss Petrov, if you could try again.

LARISA

Activate guidance system.

SCIENTIST

Guidance system – responding!

FX: SCIENTISTS PLEASED.

MIKHAIL

So now what?

LARISA

We have to calculate a new trajectory, but the computations will take an hour at least.

DOCTOR

(FX: FRANTIC SCRIBBLING) Give me a few moments... Finished. Commence a twenty-second engine burn – now!

SCIENTIST

Commencing engine burn.

FX: RADIO REGAINED

MARINKA (VIA RADIO)

(TERRIFIED) What is happening? What are you doing? Help me!

LARISA

It's alright, we're bringing you home.

MARINKA (VIA RADIO)

Home? No. I don't like it. Let me out! Let me out!

DOCTOR

We will, very soon. You don't have much longer to wait.

MARINKA (VIA RADIO)

No. Let me out now. Please!

FX: RADIO CONTACT ENDS.

MIKHAIL

Doctor, where will the capsule come down?

DOCTOR

By my reckoning about sixty kilometres due north of the cosmodrome, in just under an hour's time.

16. INT. RESEARCH AREA.

PERI

For the last time. I'm not a spy.

ALEXEI

You must forgive my melodramatics. I know you are a spy, because I was the one who sent for you.

PERI

You sent for me?

ALEXEI

I contacted the KGB with my suspicions. They told me to expect two agents posing as scientific experts from Moscow university.

PERI

What were these suspicions?

ALEXEI

I believed there was someone based in the cosmodrome who was passing on our research to a third party.

PERI

'Believed'?

ALEXEI

I found proof. Valentina Cherlin. She gained access to the restricted area, this place. I found her taking photographs. She had already passed on the blueprints for the lunar module.

PERI

Passed on to who?

ALEXEI

All I know is that they're an agent working for the West. Valentina wouldn't tell me any more than that.

PERI

Maybe she'll talk to me. Where is she?

ALEXEI

I don't know. I locked her in my quarters, told her what would happen if she did not cooperate, but when I returned she had gone.

PERI

She escaped?

ALEXEI

Or the enemy agent came for her.

PERI

This Valentina, what is she like?

ALEXEI

She is small, attractive, about your age.

PERI

(REALISING) And she disappeared.. just before I got here.

ALEXEI

I know I should have questioned her more, used force.. but I couldn't do it.

PERI

Why not?

ALEXEI

Because I loved her. That's how she'd gained access to the restricted area, she had stolen my key. Valentina and I were lovers.

FX: TANNOY ON.

MIKHAIL (VIA TANNOY)

Attention. All capsule recovery staff to go to departure point one. All medical staff on stand-by.

FX: TANNOY OFF.

PERI

That's me, I have to go.

ALEXEI

But you and Doctor Kalashnikov, you will find the traitor? And Valentina?

PERI

I can't make any promises. But we'll do our best.

FX: SHE GOES.

17. INT. HELICOPTER.

FX: HELICOPTER FLYING OVER DESERT. MOVE INSIDE.

LARISA

(INTO RADIO) Five kilometres to landing site.

DOCTOR

(OVER ENGINES) Larisa, there! Over there!

FX: HELICOPTER TURNS.

LARISA

(INTO RADIO) Have spotted capsule vapour trail. Parachute has successfully deployed. Repeat. Parachute has successfully deployed!

FX: MOVE TO MISSION CONTROL

18. INT. MISSION CONTROL.

MIKHAIL

You can see the capsule itself? Over.

LARISA (VIA RADIO)

Yes, it's just hit the ground. Glowing hot but it appears undamaged. Over.

FX: SCIENTISTS CHEER. PERI ENTERS.

PERI

What's going on?

MIKHAIL

Vostok seven's returned to Earth.

PERI

It has? Where's the Doctor?

MIKHAIL

With Miss Petrov, in the helicopter. What's your status, over?

LARISA (VIA RADIO)

Just coming in to land beside the capsule, over.

19. EXT. STEPPE.

FX: SOME WIND. HELICOPTER LANDS, HATCH OPENS, DOCTOR AND LARISA JUMP OUT, ALONG WITH SOME SOLDIERS.

LARISA

(OVER DIN) There it is, I can hardly believe it. The first man-made object to orbit the moon.

DOCTOR

(OVER DIN) Let's save the congratulations until we've got Marinka out, shall we?

FX: THEY MOVE AWAY FROM HELICOPTER.

LARISA

If she's still alive.

DOCTOR

Try the radio.

FX: LARISA SWITCHES ON PORTABLE RADIO.

LARISA

This is Larisa Petrov calling Vostok seven. Can you hear me? Repeat. Can you hear me? Over.

FX: BUZZY RADIO STATIC.

MARINKA (VIA RADIO)

Please. Let me out. Let me out of here!

LARISA

She's alive!

DOCTOR

Yes. It certainly sounds like it.

FX: MOVE TO MISSION CONTROL

20. INT. MISSION CONTROL.

LARISA (VIA RADIO)

Cosmonaut Talanov is alive. I repeat. She's alive! Over.

FX: SCIENTISTS CHEER.

MIKHAIL

Well done, Miss Petrov. Never doubted you for a moment. Proceed to open Vostok capsule. Over.

LARISA (VIA RADIO)

Cutting hatch seals now, over.

FX: MOVE TO STEPPE.

21. EXT. STEPPE.

FX: CAPSULE BEING CUT OPEN.

LARISA

Hatch seals have now been cut. Over.

MIKHAIL (VIA RADIO)

Then open the capsule. Get her out of there. Over.

LARISA

Opening hatch.

FX: HATCH OPENS.

LARISA

My God. I... I don't believe it.

MIKHAIL (VIA RADIO)

What is it? Miss Petrov? Report. Report.

LARISA

It's absurd but... Cosmonaut Talanov has gone. There is... there is a dog inside her space suit!

MIKHAIL (VIA RADIO)

A dog?

DOCTOR

And not just any dog.

LARISA

What?

DOCTOR

Don't you recognise it? It's Laika.

END OF PART ONE

PART TWO

22. EXT. STEPPE.

REPRISE:

LARISA

Opening hatch.

FX: HATCH OPENS.

LARISA

My God. I... I don't believe it.

MIKHAIL (VIA RADIO)

What is it? Miss Petrov? Report. Report.

LARISA

It's absurd but... Cosmonaut Talanov has gone. There is... there is a dog inside her space suit!

MIKHAIL (VIA RADIO)

A dog?

DOCTOR

And not just any dog.

LARISA

What?

DOCTOR

Don't you recognise it? It's Laika. (REPRISE ENDS.)

LARISA

But that's ridiculous. Someone must have interfered with the capsule, put the dog in there as some sort of joke.

DOCTOR

When? We saw it land. We were the first to reach it.

LARISA

Well, what do you think's happened?

DOCTOR

Someone did interfere with the capsule. When it was on the far side of the moon.

FX: RADIO CRACKLES

MARINKA (VIA RADIO)

Let me out. Please. Let me out.

LARISA

It's Marinka. She must still be in the capsule.

DOCTOR

No. There's no-one else in there.

MARINKA (VIA RADIO)

I can see you. Let me out.

LARISA

Doctor, what are you doing?

DOCTOR

(EFFORT) Removing her helmet – ah!

(FX: HE DOES SO, RELEASE OF AIR)

MARINKA (VOICE AND RADIO)

Thank you. (BREATHING DEEPLY) Whoever you are. Thank you.

LARISA

The dog. It's speaking. It's speaking!

DOCTOR

Yes. (TO LAIKA) Hello. I'm the Doctor. Tell me, how did you end up here?

MARINKA

I... don't remember.

DOCTOR

Do you remember being sent into space?

MARINKA

I remember being locked in a metal box. And then there was this screaming, crushing. I was so frightened. I thought I was going to die. And then I was alone. So alone..

DOCTOR

I think that confirms it. This is Laika.

MARINKA:

Yes, yes. That is what they called me. Laika. I am Laika!

23. INT. MISSION CONTROL

MIKHAIL

Laika?

LARISA (VIA RADIO)

I find it as hard to believe as you do, sir. Over.

MIKHAIL

All right. Have the capsule brought to the quarantine area. I'll tell the medical staff to get ready.

LARISA (VIA RADIO)

Yes, sir.

MIKHAIL

Until further notice, no-one is to have any contact with the occupant of the capsule. The fewer people who know about this, the better. Over.

DOCTOR (VIA RADIO)

But General, you have to allow me to stay with her. She's alone, she's afraid, she —

MIKHAIL

No, Doctor. You are not to speak to that animal again. Out.

24. INT. LABORATORY/QUARANTINE ROOM

FX: AGITATED MONKEYS, DOGS, CATS MAKING NOISES AND RATTLING CAGES. SCIENTISTS TRYING TO CALM THEM.

MIKHAIL

What on Earth's got into the other animals?

LARISA

I'm not sure, General. They've been like this ever since... the "Cosmonaut Talanov" dog was brought in.

MIKHAIL

Where is... she?

LARISA

Through here.

FX: THEY ENTER ANOTHER ROOM, DOOR CLOSES, SHUTTING OUT SOUNDS OF OTHER ANIMALS.

LARISA

I've had her restrained on an operating table for examination purposes.

LAIKA

Who are you? Why have you done this to me? (STRAINS) Let me go!

LARISA

We... er... We just want to find out about you. To work out what happened.

MIKHAIL

And what you've done with Cosmonaut Talanov.

LAIKA

You! I know you. You locked me into the metal box. It was you!

LARISA

Seems she recognises you, General.

MIKHAIL

Then she'll know what happens if she doesn't obey.

LAIKA

No. Keep away from me! You left me to die!

MIKHAIL

What have you done with Cosmonaut Talanov?

LAIKA

I don't know!

MIKHAIL

Where is she? Where have you been these last six years?

LAIKA

I don't know!

LARISA

Maybe she genuinely doesn't know, general. The amnesia –

MIKHAIL

She hasn't forgotten me, Miss Petrov. She'll tell us what we want to know. One way or another.

25. EXT. STREET.

FX: DOCTOR AND PERI TRUDGING THROUGH SNOW, TRAFFIC IN B/G.

DOCTOR

Peri, let me get this straight. The Soviets have a prototype lunar landing module, hidden in a secret hangar?

PERI

Yeah. Just like the Neil Armstrong one, all ready to go.

DOCTOR

And the real Kalashnikov and Pushkin were KGB spies, sent to locate an enemy agent who had been receiving confidential information from – what was her name?

PERI

Valentina Cherlin. The third girl we found, in the crashed car.

DOCTOR

Yes. I think it's safe to conclude the enemy agent murdered her in order to guarantee her silence.

PERI

But why kill Kalashnikov and Pushkin?

DOCTOR

My guess is that Valentina found out that the two scientists on their way from Moscow were really KGB agents.

PERI

So she told the enemy agent, who intercepted the agents' car, and killed them along with Valentina herself.

DOCTOR

Yes. They're probably also responsible for sabotaging the radio relay to Vostok seven.

PERI

But why do that? Why sabotage the Vostok mission?

DOCTOR

To deprive the Soviet Union of a propaganda victory? Does seem a little drastic, I must admit.

PERI

So now we have to pretend to be two KGB agents who are pretending to be scientists from Moscow!

DOCTOR

Yes. I recommend we, um, play our cards close to our chests.

PERI

What about Laika? I mean... a talking dog? That just seems... crazy.

DOCTOR

I know.

PERI

What do you think happened there?

DOCTOR

That I don't know. And I won't until I get the chance to question her properly. But... I've been forbidden from speaking to her.

PERI

Maybe I could ask Captain Kozlov to sneak me in to the quarantine area? While you keep Miss Petrov occupied?

DOCTOR

It's worth a try. But don't take any risks, if you get caught it will make our lives even more complicated.

26. INT. QUARANTINE ROOM.

LAIKA

Please... can I have some water?

MIKHAIL

Not until you tell us what you've done with Cosmonaut Talanov!

LAIKA

I don't know. Please. Give me water.

FX: THEY MOVE TO ANOTHER ROOM. ANIMALS STILL AGITATED.

LARISA

We can't withhold food and water, General. It would be inhuman.

MIKHAIL

Inhuman? This is a dog we're talking about! A mongrel from the streets of Moscow! A laboratory specimen you wouldn't normally think twice about putting to sleep. That's why we sent it into space in the first place!

LARISA

But now, I think she has a... human level of consciousness.

MIKHAIL

So we should start addressing her as Comrade Laika? Why stop there? Why not give her a parade through Red Square?

LARISA

We must run more tests. Memory, intelligence. X-rays.

MIKHAIL

And in the meantime we risk the news getting out and our becoming a international laughing stock. (BEAT) You have one day, Miss Petrov. One day!

27. INT. OFFICE.

LARISA

I'm sorry, Doctor. But you can understand the General's position.

DOCTOR

Something remarkable has happened here, Miss Petrov. Something... well, frankly miraculous. And he wants it killed to avoid embarrassment? You have to let me speak to her.

LARISA

I can't do that. But I'd like to know what you make of this. Her x-rays.

FX: X-RAY PUT ON WALL LIGHT.

DOCTOR

Well that explains how she can talk.

LARISA

It does?

DOCTOR

Look at the larynx.

LARISA

But that's —

DOCTOR

Human, yes.

LARISA

But Laika is speaking with Cosmonaut Talanov's voice.

DOCTOR

— Which explains where the larynx came from. The brain's been surgically altered too. It seems to have had sections of a human brain grafted onto the cerebral cortex.

LARISA

Something used Talanov for body parts, for this dog?

DOCTOR

Gruesome, admittedly, but an incredible scientific achievement nonetheless.

LARISA

But who could do this? What could do this?

DOCTOR

Nothing of this Earth... or this time.

LARISA

Right... And why?

DOCTOR

Ah. That is the question. Wait! Presumably one of the objectives of this mission was to map the lunar surface?

LARISA

Yes, of course –

DOCTOR

Have you had the photographs developed?

LARISA

No. Not yet, what with everything else, I've been too busy.

28. INT. LABORATORY/QUARANTINE ROOM.

FX: ANIMALS SUBDUED. DOOR UNLOCKED, OPENED.

ALEXEI

(QUIET) I warn you, if General Leonov finds out about this –

PERI

(QUIET) Yes?

ALEXEI

I will have to inform him that you and Doctor Kalashnikov are KGB agents. And that you specifically requested to breach the quarantine.

PERI

He won't find out. I only want to talk to Laika.

ALEXEI

Laika?

PERI

Just... wait out here.

FX: ANIMALS STIRRING.

ALEXEI

If I must. Have always hated this place, smells like an abattoir.

FX: PERI STEPS THROUGH DOOR, CLOSES IT. SILENCE.

PERI

Hello? Hello? Are you there?

LAIKA

Who is it?

PERI

My name is Per – Kristina. I'm a friend of the Doctor's.

LAIKA

The Doctor. What do you want?

PERI

To help.

LAIKA

Help? Yes. You can help me.

29. INT. OFFICE.

FX: DOOR OPENS.

MIKHAIL

This had better be important, Miss Petrov, to drag me out of bed at midnight.

LARISA

It's important. We've had the photographs taken by Vostok seven developed.

MIKHAIL

We?

DOCTOR

My idea. Just look at them.

FX: PAPERS SPREAD OVER DESK.

MIKHAIL

I am not an astronomer, craters mean nothing to me.

DOCTOR

Look closer. This picture of the Izsak-Delpport crater.

LARISA

Doctor, this is the first time anybody has seen the far side of the moon, we haven't started naming it yet.

DOCTOR

Well I have. General?

MIKHAIL

What am I looking for? (BEAT) Wait, what's that?

LARISA

It's not a geological feature. The Doctor thinks that small white circle might be a flying saucer.

MIKHAIL

You got me out of bed for this? This is ridiculous.

DOCTOR

More ridiculous than your cosmonaut being replaced with a dog? More ridiculous than that dog being augmented with your missing cosmonaut's larynx and brain?

MIKHAIL

You think 'aliens' did this?

LARISA

It's beyond our science, and the Americans'.

MIKHAIL

So if it is a flying saucer, what do you propose we do about it?

DOCTOR

I propose we go and take a closer look.

MIKHAIL

You want to go to the moon?

DOCTOR

Yes. After all, you've already got everything prepared, haven't you?

30. INT. QUARANTINE ROOM

FX: GURGLING WATER.

LAIKA

(DRINKS) Thank you. But if you want to help... set me free.

PERI

I don't think I can.

LAIKA

I've done nothing wrong. I just want to go. To see the sky, to breathe fresh air, to run through the snow. Like I did, when I was young... when I begged for scraps.

PERI

But you're not the same dog you once were. You can think now, you can talk.

LAIKA

And for that I should be punished? (STRUGGLES)

PERI

What did this do to you? Something must have rescued you.

LAIKA

Release me, let me go with you, and I will tell the Doctor.

PERI

The Doctor?

LAIKA

He showed me kindness. I trust him. But you will have to carry me, I don't think I'll be able to walk on my own.

PERI

All right, hold still.

FX: STARTS UNDOING LAIKA'S STRAPS.

31. INT. HANGAR

FX: DOOR OPENS, DOCTOR, MIKHAIL AND LARISA ENTER.

MIKHAIL

How did you find out about the lunar module?

DOCTOR

How do you think? It's the reason why I was sent here. (FX: TAPS MODULE) Yes, it looks serviceable enough. Intended for Vostok eight?

LARISA

Yes. A rocket would carry two cosmonauts into orbit around the moon, where they could then use this module to land.

DOCTOR

And I presume you have a rocket all fuelled up and ready to go?

MIKHAIL

We have a new Voskhod rocket prepared and on the pad, due for test launch in a couple of days' time.

DOCTOR

Then that sounds ideal. What do you say, Larisa? How do you fancy being the first woman to walk on the moon?

LARISA

You are suggesting that I go?

DOCTOR

Can you think of anyone more qualified? After all, you're hardly going to let me go on my own, are you?

32. INT. QUARANTINE ROOM.

FX: STRAPS RELEASED.

PERI

There you go.

FX: LAIKA JUMPS DOWN, SHAKES HERSELF.

LAIKA

That's better, can stretch my legs, can – (ATTACKS PERI)

PERI

(BEING ATTACKED) What are you doing?

LAIKA

I must be free! Free!

FX: DOOR OPENS TO LABORATORY. ANIMALS SHRIEKING, RATTLING CAGES IN A FRENZY.

ALEXEI

Kristina, what's going on, all the animals have gone crazy.

FX: LAIKA ENTERS.

LAIKA

Yes. Because they know that I'm here.

ALEXEI

What the –

LAIKA

I recommend you run, human, if you don't want to be torn to pieces.

ALEXEI

Stay back. Stay back!

FX: PISTOL COCKED. PERI ENTERS.

PERI

Alexei! Don't shoot her.

ALEXEI

What?

PERI

You do that, and the sound will bring every guard running.

FX: ALARM SOUNDS.

ALEXEI

Bit late for that.

PERI

Then we'd better not hang around! Come on!

LAIKA

Yes, go. Leave me! Run!

ALEXEI

(QUIETLY) I suppose she can't do much damage. We can seal this place from the outside.

FX: THEY GO, LOCKING DOOR BEHIND THEM.

LAIKA

You think I won't be able to find my way out?

FX: ANIMALS SHRIEKING.

LAIKA

Don't worry, my comrades. Soon you will be free... and reborn!

33. INT. HANGAR

FX: ALARM SOUNDS HERE.

LARISA

That's the quarantine alarm.

DOCTOR

Don't look at me, I was with you the whole time.

FX: MIKHAIL USES RADIO.

MIKHAIL

Security to quarantine section. Status report.

LEONID (VIA RADIO)

It's the animal testing laboratory, sir. Something's happening down there.

MIKHAIL

What? What's happening?

FX: MOVE TO OTHER END OF CALL IN CORRIDOR.

34. INT. CORRIDOR.

FX: ALARM LOUDER HERE.

LEONID

Not sure, sir. When we got here the room had been sealed from the outside.

LARISA (VIA RADIO)

What about the security camera?

LEONID

It's blacked out, they all seem to be – wait, Captain Kozlov is here, with Doctor Pushkin.

ALEXEI

Sir, it appears that someone.. broke into the laboratory and released Laika.

MIKHAIL (VIA RADIO)

What?

ALEXEI

Hearing the alarm, Doctor Pushkin and I went to investigate –

PERI

– and Laika was there. She tried to attack us.

DOCTOR (VIA RADIO)

Laika tried to attack you?

PERI

Yes, Doctor. It was like she was rabid or something.

ALEXEI

Sergeant Kurakin. Round up a security team.

LEONID

Yes, sir. (BEAT) What for, sir?

ALEXEI

What do you think? We're going back in there.

FX: MOVE TO HANGAR. ALARM NOW OFF.

35. INT. HANGAR

DOCTOR

Captain, I'd be very careful if I were you. It's possible Laika may have got free under her own steam.

LARISA

What are you talking about? That dog was restrained.

DOCTOR

If her intelligence was improved, maybe her strength was too.

LARISA

Or maybe it was the work of our mysterious saboteur.

36. INT. CORRIDOR

ALEXEI

All right, Sergeant. Open the door.

FX: DOOR TO LABORATORY OPENED. SILENCE.

LEONID

There's nothing in there. All the animals have gone!

ALEXEI

The cages are open. What could have done this?

PERI

I guess Laika was clever enough to figure out a few latches.

ALEXEI

Then where is she now?

LEONID

Here sir!

PERI

The wall panel, it's been ripped open...

MIKHAIL (VIA RADIO)

Captain, report!

ALEXEI

All the specimens have escaped with Laika, sir. They managed to get into the ducting... they could be anywhere.

MIKHAIL (VIA RADIO)

Then track them down, captain. I want those animals caught!

FX: FADE OUT.

37. EXT. STREET.

FX: FADE IN. WALKING THROUGH SNOW, WIND, TRAFFIC.

DOCTOR

Captain Kozlov still hasn't found them?

PERI

No. But they have got a whole town to hide in.

DOCTOR

And Laika's intelligence to guide them.

PERI

Doctor, she threatened to tear us to pieces. She might be clever, but she's still an animal at heart.

DOCTOR

And now she's got herself a gang of followers. You'll be careful while I'm away, won't you?

PERI

You're not still planning on going up in a rocket?

DOCTOR

Of course. I'm rather looking forward to it.

PERI

Haven't we got enough to deal with down here?

DOCTOR

No. Because whatever was responsible for what's happening down here is up there, on the moon.

PERI

I'm amazed Miss Petrov agreed to let you go.

DOCTOR

So was she when she saw my test results. She was reluctantly forced to admit I was the most qualified candidate. Slightly more qualified than Yuri Gagarin was, in fact.

PERI

I'd feel happier if I was going with you.

DOCTOR

Only room for two, unfortunately. And besides, as a KGB agent, you have your own investigations to be getting on with...

38. INT. MISSION CONTROL

FX: HIVE OF ACTIVITY.

SCIENTIST

Time to launch, one hundred seconds.

MIKHAIL

What is capsule status, over?

LARISA (VIA RADIO)

All systems normal. Commencing final pre-ignition checks.

MIKHAIL

Very good, Miss Petrov.

PERI

Can I speak to them?

MIKHAIL

If you're quick.

PERI

Doctor... Kalashnikov, it's me. Doctor Pushkin.

FX: MOVE TO CAPSULE

39. INT. CAPSULE

DOCTOR

Kristina. Are you calling to wish me good luck?

PERI (VIA RADIO)

You just take care up there.

DOCTOR

Have you ever known me not to? And besides, I am in the capable hands of Miss Petrov.

PERI (VIA RADIO)

Yes, but after what happened last time —

DOCTOR

Don't worry. Forewarned is forearmed.

FX: MOVE BACK TO MISSION CONTROL.

40. INT. MISSION CONTROL.

SCIENTIST

Time to launch, fifteen seconds.

MIKHAIL

Cosmonauts Petrov and Kalashnikov. Have a good flight.

PERI

Good luck, Doctor. And goodbye.

DOCTOR (VIA RADIO)

Goodbye, Kristina.

MIKHAIL

Time to launch, ten seconds. Ignition key to start position.

LARISA (VIA RADIO)

Ignition key to start position.

SCIENTIST

Five, four, three, two, one. Launch!

LARISA (VIA RADIO)

Preliminary.

FX: SOUND OF ROCKETS VIA RADIO, THEN OUTSIDE TWO SECONDS LATER.

LARISA (VIA RADIO)

Intermediate.

FX: ROCKETS DOUBLE UP.

LARISA (VIA RADIO)

Main.

FX: ROCKET LAUNCHES.

MIKHAIL

We have lift off. Vostok eight has lift off!

FX: MOVE TO CAPSULE

41. INT. CAPSULE.

FX: ENGINES DEAFENING. RADIO DISTORTING.

MIKHAIL (VIA RADIO)

I repeat. Vostok eight has lift off!

LARISA

(INCREASINGLY STRAINED) Accelerating. Three-g. Four-g. Five.

MIKHAIL (VIA RADIO)

Status. Miss Petrov? What is your status?

DOCTOR

(STRAINED) I'm afraid Miss Petrov has lost consciousness... eight g. Nine g. Ten!

FX: MOVE TO MISSION CONTROL.

42. INT. MISSION CONTROL.

FX: RADIO JUST STATIC. SOUND OF ROCKETS FADE.

PERI

What's happening?

MIKHAIL

Radio black-out. It is to be expected.

43. EXT. STREET.

FX: DISTANT RUMBLE FADING. TWO WORKERS CRANKING VALVES.

MAINTENANCE WORKER ONE

There she goes. The first rocket to send men to the moon. And we were here to see it.

MAINTENANCE WORKER TWO

While repairing a leaking oil pipe. Or at least one of us was.

MAINTENANCE WORKER ONE

Still, it will be something to tell our grandchildren.

MAINTENANCE WORKER TWO

(WORKING) I can believe a man will walk on the moon, Arkady, but I cannot believe you will ever have grandchildren.

FX: DOGS APPROACH, BARKING.

MAINTENANCE WORKER ONE

Hello there little doggy. Good boy.

MAINTENANCE WORKER TWO

Careful, he might be wild.

MAINTENANCE WORKER ONE

No, he just wants to play, don't you? (WHISTLES ENCOURAGINGLY)

FX: DOG SNAPS, SNARLS.

MAINTENANCE WORKER ONE

(BIT) Ow! You stinking cur!

MAINTENANCE WORKER TWO

There are more of them. (FEARFUL) No. Keep back! Back!

LAIKA

You think you can give us orders, human?

MAINTENANCE WORKER TWO

What the hell? A talking dog?

LAIKA

Oh, I can do more than talk. I can bite.

FX: DOGS ATTACK.

MAINTENANCE WORKER ONE & TWO

(BEING SAVAGED) Get-off! Help! (AD-LIB)

FX: FADE OUT.

44. INT. MISSION CONTROL.

ALEXEI

And by the time the guards got there, the two men had gone.

MIKHAIL

What do you mean, 'gone'?

ALEXEI

The dogs had dragged their bodies away, we don't know where. I watched the whole thing on the security cameras.

PERI

And you're sure Laika did this?

ALEXEI

Oh, yes. She was leading the pack.

MIKHAIL

This has gone on long enough, sergeant. Until those animals have been destroyed, this cosmodrome is to be placed on emergency alert. No-one is to enter or leave or make any contact with the outside world.

ALEXI

Very good, sir.

MIKHAIL

And from this moment on, enforce a total curfew. No-one is to be allowed out of their homes during the hours of darkness. Anyone found breaking the curfew will be shot!

45. INT. FLAT.

FX: DOG WHINING.

FEMALE WORKER

No, I can't let you out, Shusha. No walks tonight. No!

FX: DOG WHINES, PAWS AT DOOR.

FEMALE WORKER

I'm sorry, but there is a curfew. Now go to bed. Go to bed.

FX: DOG SNARLS.

FEMALE WORKER

Shusha. I'm telling you. Bed.

FX: DOG ATTACKS.

FEMALE WORKER

(BEING SAVAGED) Shusha. Get down. Bad dog! Down! Down! (BANGS HEAD ON WALL, FALLS UNCONSCIOUS)

FX: DOOR OPENS. LAIKA ENTERS.

LAIKA

Leave her, my comrade. Your revenge can wait. You must join us now.

46. INT. CANTEEN.

FX: FADE IN. SUBDUED CHATTER. RADIO MUSIC.

PERI

Another one?

LEONID

I'm afraid so, General Leonov is trying to keep it quiet, but that's the sixth person we've lost. And it's not just the lab animals. Domestic pets, even our own guard dogs, they've all turned against their owners, escaped, and joined with Laika.

PERI

But why attack people?

LEONID

For food, presumably. Sorry, I didn't mean to put you off –

PERI

No, it's fine, I turned vegetarian a while back.

LEONID

Probably wise. You should see the stuff they feed us.

PERI

Here, have mine. Pay you back for keeping me company.

LEONID

It is a pleasure, not a duty. To spend time with the prettiest girl from Latvia.

PERI

Excuse me. I'm a highly-qualified doctor from Moscow university.

LEONID

Doesn't stop you being a pretty girl, or from Latvia. I'm sorry. You are worried about your friend?

PERI

Wouldn't you be? He's been gone three days.

LEONID

Where is the capsule now?

47. INT. MISSION CONTROL.

FX: NORMAL BUSINESS.

SCIENTIST

Approaching lunar orbit. Thirty minutes to radio silence.

MIKHAIL

Status, Cosmonaut Petrov?

LARISA (VIA RADIO)

All systems normal... We're in the wrong alignment to see the moon but we can see the Earth.

FX: MOVE TO CAPSULE.

48. INT. CAPSULE.

LARISA

It's like a blue marble in the darkness. All of history, all of creation, all the achievements of the human race, and I can cover it with one finger. I'm glad I lived to see this.

MIKHAIL (VIA RADIO)

Remember, you will have to adjust course while you are on the far side of the moon to maintain lunar orbit.

DOCTOR

Don't worry, I've already made all the necessary calculations. Nothing could be simpler!

49. EXT. STREET/CHERLIN'S FLAT.

FX: NIGHT-WIND, FOOTSTEPS THROUGH SNOW.

ALEXEI

Do you like taking risks, Doctor Pushkin?

PERI

No. I realise that this is breaking the curfew, but –

ALEXEI

Getting caught isn't what worries me. It's Laika.

PERI

Are you scared?

ALEXEI

She has managed to kill, slaughter some of my best men. So you will understand if I do not wait around.

PERI

You have the master-key?

ALEXEI

Here. The apartment of the late Valentina Cherlin. I don't know what you hope to find, I've already had my men search it.

PERI

Then me taking a look can't do any harm, can it?

ALEXEI

You have thirty minutes. Until then, Doctor.

FX: HE GOES. SHE OPENS DOOR STARTS LOOKING AROUND, OPENING CUPBOARDS, DRAWERS.

PERI

Come on, come on. There must be something here, some clue.

FX: FOOTSTEPS OUTSIDE.

PERI

(QUIET) Alexei, is that you?

FX: DOOR OPENS.

LEONID

I thought I might find you here, Doctor Pushkin.

PERI

What?

LEONID

You see, Kristina, I've worked it out. You're not really a doctor at all. You're a KGB agent.

50. INT. CAPSULE.

MIKHAIL (VIA RADIO)

Ten minutes to radio silence.

DOCTOR

We know.

LARISA

Repeating systems check. (FX: SWITCHES PRESSED) Everything normal.

MIKHAIL (VIA RADIO)

Continue checking. This is the point where Vostok Seven experienced life support failure.

LARISA

As if I didn't know that.

DOCTOR

Can't blame him for being paranoid. Vostok Seven was functioning perfectly before everything went wrong too.

51. INT. CHERLIN'S FLAT.

LEONID

I suspected something was odd, ever since I found you out on the steppe. So I kept an eye on you.

PERI

And I thought you were just being attentive.

LEONID

Captain Kozlov sent for you, didn't he? That's why you're here. To find out why she disappeared.

PERI

So now you know why I'm here, are you going to help me?

LEONID

Of course, Kristina. If that is your name. What exactly were you hoping to find?

PERI

We believe – well, Captain Kozlov believes – that Valentina was passing on secrets to an enemy agent in the base. They were having an affair, you see.

LEONID

No. She was using Kozlov to gain access to confidential documents.

PERI

What?

LEONID

At least, that is what she wrote in her diary.

FX: HE UNFOLDS BOOK, FLICKS THROUGH PAGES.

PERI

Where did you get that?

LEONID

She gave it to me before she disappeared. Told me to look after it, and give it to the KGB investigators if anything happened to her.

PERI

You didn't tell Captain Kozlov about it?

LEONID

No. I couldn't be sure he wasn't the one responsible for her disappearance.

PERI

Does the diary say who the enemy agent was?

LEONID

No. It just mentions her work, and her meetings with her lover.

PERI

...Captain Kozlov.

LEONID

No. Her real lover.

PERI

You?

LEONID

No, not me. She mentions in her diary, with regard to Captain Kozlov, how distasteful it was for her to be having a relationship with a man.

PERI

(PENNY DROPS) Oh no.

LEONID

What is it?

PERI

I think I've just worked out who the enemy agent is.

52. EXT. STREET

FX: PERI AND LEONID RUNNING THROUGH SNOW.

LEONID

Where exactly are we going?

PERI

Mission control.

FX: DOGS HOWLING THE DISTANCE.

PERI

What was that?

LEONID

Laika and the other animals. They're directly ahead of us.

FX: DOGS HOWLING AGAIN, THEN BARKING, GETTING NEARER.

PERI

And getting closer. We'll have to find another way around.

LEONID

Back to the apartments. We can hold out there until dawn.

PERI

There isn't time. (SEES ANIMALS) Oh no.

FX: WHOOPING MONKEYS, DOGS BARK, CATS HISS, GETTING NEARER.

LEONID

We're surrounded. We've walked into a trap.

53. INT. CAPSULE.

MIKHAIL (VIA RADIO)

Ten seconds to radio silence.

LARISA

Until we speak again, General.

FX: RADIO HISSES, GOES OUT.

DOCTOR

Right on cue!

LARISA

And any moment now, we will be passing into sunlight and see the far side of the moon for the first time.

DOCTOR

One hundred kilometres up. We should get a very good view.

LARISA

And there it is... a world of sheer mountain ranges and shadowy canyons. So cold and white. It is beautiful!

DOCTOR

And deadly.

54. EXT. STREET.

FX: ANIMALS APPROACHING. RIFLE COCKED.

PERI

You think you'll be able to shoot our way out of this?

LEONID

No, but I can try.

FX: LAIKA PADS UP TO THEM.

LAIKA

Kristina.

PERI

Laika. We mean you no harm. You have to let us go.

LAIKA

You can go. You helped me. But the man... we need.

LEONID

Yeah, for food.

LAIKA

No. We have another use for you. Comrades... take him.

LEONID

No wait, wait. Please.

FX: CAR DRAWS UP, DOGS BARKING, GUN FIRE RINGS OUT.

ALEXEI

(SHOUTS) Quick! Well don't just stand there! Get in!

LEONID

Captain, just in time!

FX: CAR DOORS OPEN, SLAM SHUT. MORE GUN FIRE. ANIMALS SWARMING OVER CAR BANGING ON WINDOWS, MONKEYS SCREECHING, DOGS SNARLING.

ALEXEI

I warned you about wandering around at night. You both in?

PERI & LEONID

Yes.

ALEXEI

Then let's get out of here.

FX: CAR REVS HARD AND DRIVES OFF, AMIDST ANIMAL NOISES.

55. INT. CAPSULE.

LARISA

Approaching lunar orbit insertion point. Three. Two. One.

FX: SWITCH PRESSED, ENGINE BURNS.

DOCTOR

And... off.

FX: SWITCH PRESSED, ENGINE BURNS.

DOCTOR

Gyroscopes confirm five degree trajectory shift.

LARISA

Then we've established a lunar orbit. We can rest.

DOCTOR

Not just yet. We should be approaching visual range of that alien object in the minute or so.

LARISA

You think we'll be able to find it? It is just a mass of craters...

DOCTOR

Oh, I think so. Telescope, telescope! (FX: OPENS TELESCOPE)
Should be somewhere around... oh my word.

LARISA

Doctor?

DOCTOR

I don't believe it.

LARISA

You've seen it.

DOCTOR

Yes, but I don't believe what I've seen. A lunar base!

LARISA

With the stars and stripes painted on the roof of the main dome. (FX: PISTOL COCKED) And now you've seen it, Doctor, you can never go home again.

56. INT. MISSION CONTROL.

SCIENTIST

Time to radio contact... thirty minutes.

MIKHAIL

Assuming they're still alive.

FX: DOOR OPENS. PERI, ALEXEI AND LEONID ENTER.

MIKHAIL

What is the meaning of this –

PERI

I have to call the capsule. I have to warn the Doctor.

MIKHAIL

Warn him? What about?

LEONID

Larisa Petrov. She's a spy, working for the United States!

MIKHAIL

What?

PERI

So you have to let me call the capsule!

MIKHAIL

But you can't, it's too late. It passed behind the moon fifteen minutes ago...

57. INT. CAPSULE.

DOCTOR

I wouldn't fire that thing in here. One bullet hole in the capsule and we'll both be killed.

LARISA

Then we will die together, and this will become one more failed mission for the Soviets to hush up.

DOCTOR

Of course! That's why you sabotaged Vostok seven. To make sure the Soviets didn't find out about the American moonbase!

FX: SHE BEGINS FLICKING SWITCHES.

LARISA

Orders straight from the White house. End the Soviet space programme once and for all. The president has promised the nation that we will win the race to the moon.

DOCTOR

But you've already won it! You've built a base there!

LARISA

Of course. He'd hardly make a promise he didn't know he could keep.

FX: SWITCH PRESSED. ENGINES ON. CAPSULE CREAKS AND GROANS BADLY.

DOCTOR

What are you doing?

LARISA

Burning up our remaining fuel. Keep still, Doctor. Or I will fire.

DOCTOR

You're altering our trajectory to a descent orbit. We're going to crash into the moon's surface!

FX: SWITCH PRESSED. ENGINES OFF. SILENCE.

LARISA

Yes, Doctor. Think of it as an honour. You will be the first man ever to die on the moon.

END OF PART TWO

PART THREE

58. INT. CAPSULE.

FX: REPRISE:

DOCTOR

What are you doing?

LARISA

Burning up our remaining fuel. Keep still, Doctor. Or I will fire.

DOCTOR

But you're altering our trajectory to a descent orbit. We're going to crash into the moon's surface!

FX: SWITCH PRESSED. ENGINES OFF. SILENCE.

LARISA

Yes, Doctor. Think of it as an honour. You will be the first man ever to die on the moon.

DOCTOR

And you'll die alongside me.

LARISA

No. While you remain on board the capsule I will use the lunar lander to join my fellow patriots in Moonbase Eisenhower.

DOCTOR

You can pilot it on your own?

LARISA

I designed it, I supervised its construction. I think I am capable of landing it.

FX: ALIEN FORCEFIELD GRIPS THE CAPSULE. IT SHUDDERS AND SHAKES. INSTRUMENTS AND ALARMS SOUND. FORCEFIELD MAKES A WHINING, HOWLING, SCREECHING SOUND, LIKE A TRACK FROM 'METAL MACHINE MUSIC'.

LARISA

(VIBRATIONS) What's happening! What have you done!?

DOCTOR

(VIBRATIONS) I don't know. It's nothing to do with me!

59. INT. MISSION CONTROL.

FX: SWITCHES PRESSED. SOUND OF STATIC.

SCIENTIST

Nothing, sir. They must have failed to establish a lunar orbit.

ALEXEI

What does that mean?

MIKHAIL

It means either they overshot the orbital insertion point and kept on going... or the capsule has gone into a descent orbit.

PERI

You mean, it's going to crash into the moon?

MIKHAIL

Given the choice, a quick death would be the merciful option.

PERI

Can't you send up another rocket?

MIKHAIL

There is no other rocket. It would take weeks to prepare another mission.

PERI

What are you talking about? You've got loads of other rockets here, I've seen them!

MIKHAIL

What you have seen are Voskhod three-K-V intercontinental ballistic missile launchers. They're not designed for spaceflight.

LEONID

Kristina. You must accept it. We've lost him.

PERI

No. The Doctor can't be dead. He can't!

MIKHAIL

Captain Kozlov. As of now, Vostok missions seven and eight are to be struck from the official record. As far as anyone is concerned, they never took place!

60. INT. CAPSULE.

FX: VIBRATIONS HAVE STOPPED, REPLACED BY LOW-LEVEL WARBLING AND OCCASIONAL CREAK OF METAL.

LARISA

(WAKING) What happened...?

DOCTOR

You were knocked out. Not by me, I hasten to add.

LARISA

My gun. Where is it?

DOCTOR

In very small pieces. Hope you don't mind, but firearms in enclosed spaces make me nervous.

FX: BUTTONS PRESSED.

LARISA

We're still on a descent orbit. I have to get to the lander!

DOCTOR

There's no need. Look at the altimeter.

LARISA

Altitude thirty kilometres. Twenty-nine. Twenty-eight... We're going to crash!

DOCTOR

No. We're going down, true enough. But something is slowing our velocity.

LARISA

What? But I burned all the fuel, the retro-rockets can't fire.

DOCTOR

No. It's the result of some outside influence. A force field of some kind, I should imagine. We should be grateful. If it hadn't intervened, we'd both be dead.

61. INT. CANTEEN.

FX: PLACE IS DESERTED, SOME MUSIC PLAYING.

LEONID

I am sorry, Kristina, but the Doctor won't be coming back.

PERI

No. I've thought him dead dozens of times before, and he's always turned up, out of the blue. Usually with a bad joke.

FX: DOOR OPENS.

ALEXEI

Ah, Doctor Pushkin, I thought I might find you here. Sergeant, if you could return to your duties. Doctor Pushkin and I have private matters to discuss.

LEONID

Yes, sir.

FX: LEONID GOES, CLOSING THE DOOR AFTER HIM.

PERI

What private matters?

ALEXEI

I must know. How did you find out that Larisa was an American spy?

PERI

I... well, I suppose it doesn't matter now. She was in a relationship with Valentina, who loved her so much, she was prepared to do anything for her.

ALEXEI

So Valentina never had any feelings for me. I was an idiot to believe otherwise. So where is Valentina now?

PERI

I don't know any other way to tell you this. Valentina is dead.

ALEXEI

Dead?

PERI

Yes. I think Larisa killed her.

ALEXEI

So much for love.

FX: DOOR OPENS.

LEONID

Sir.

ALEXEI

Sergeant, I thought I told you –

LEONID

Yes, sir. But it's the animals. They... they seem to be preparing to attack.

62. INT. CAPSULE.

LARISA

This force field is the work of extraterrestrials?

DOCTOR

Well, it's beyond contemporary human technology. And we know that Vostok seven was subject to alien interference.

LARISA

Because of what happened to Laika?

DOCTOR

For it to have returned at all, its course must have been corrected when it was on the far side of the moon.

LARISA

Cosmonaut Talanov could have made the correction.

DOCTOR

No. Because by then she was already dead as a result of your sabotage.

LARISA

In war, a number of... civilian casualties are to be expected.

DOCTOR

What 'war'?

LARISA

The cold war. You remember, about a year ago, there was an international crisis due to events in the Bay of Pigs?

DOCTOR

The Cuban Missile crisis, yes.

LARISA

The world brought to the brink of nuclear conflict. And there were those in our administration who wanted to see that happen. They thought if they launched a pre-emptive strike, the Soviet Union wouldn't be able to fight back.

DOCTOR

But they stepped back from the brink.

LARISA

Because of intelligence warning them that the enemy was ready to respond in kind. If it wasn't for people like me providing that intelligence then things would have been very different.

DOCTOR

And that's your justification for murdering Valentina?

LARISA

I had no choice. She would've betrayed me, the KGB interrogators would've made sure of that.

DOCTOR

Kalashnikov and Pushkin were interrogators?

LARISA

With plenty of innocent blood on their hands. I did the world a favour by killing them. So you can imagine my surprise when you and "Doctor Pushkin" turned up. Made me wonder who you were working for.

DOCTOR

And have you come to any conclusions?

LARISA

I think you're working for a third party. Because no US agent would be so foolish as to point out the location of our secret moonbase.

DOCTOR

Speaking of which, there it is!

LARISA

We're being brought down beside it.

DOCTOR

Yes. Right outside the front door!

FX: SOUND OF FORCE FIELD INCREASES AS IT SLOWS THEM DOWN.

LARISA

Velocity still decreasing. Down to five metres a second.

DOCTOR

Just as well, given that this capsule isn't built for landing!

LARISA

Altitude five metres. Four. Three. Two.

DOCTOR

Brace yourself!

FX: THE CAPSULE LANDS QUITE GENTLY. SOUND OF FORCE-FIELD FADES.

DOCTOR

Oh. Well. I've had bumpier landings.

FX: SWITCHES CHECKED. RADIO ON.

LARISA

This is agent Topaz calling Moonbase Eisenhower. (NO REPLY)
This is agent Topaz calling Moonbase Eisenhower. Please respond!

DOCTOR

It seems they're not "picking up".

LARISA

There must be a fault with the radio.

DOCTOR

Sabotage that as well, did you?

LARISA

No, Doctor, I did not.

FX: FEEDBACK VIA RADIO, RESEMBLING THE FORCE-FIELD NOISE.
LARISA SWITCHES IT OFF.

LARISA

Ow. (BEAT) So what do you suggest we do now?

DOCTOR

We have spacesuits. We could always pop out and knock —

FX: HATCH BEGINS TO OPEN.

LARISA

Oh no. The entry hatch, it's opening!

DOCTOR

What?!

LARISA

But if it opens while we're on the moon, we'll be dead.

FX: HATCH SWINGS OPEN WITH A CREAK THEN SILENCE.

DOCTOR

Are you sure about that?

LARISA

The capsule hasn't depressurised.

DOCTOR

No. It seems someone wants us kept alive. Come on!

FX: HE STARTS CLAMBERING OUT.

LARISA

Where are you going?

DOCTOR

Where do you think? Outside!

63. EXT. ROOF.

FX: DOOR CLANGS OPEN. WIND.

PERI

Oh great, now it's snowing.

ALEXEI

Sergeant, binoculars.

LEONID

Here, sir.

FX: HE HANDS THEM OVER, BUSINESS WITH STRAP.

LEONID

The animals have formed a perimeter around this building.

ALEXEI

Yes. It's almost as if they're waiting for something.

FX: DOGS HOWL IN DISTANCE.

64. EXT. STREET.

FX: DOGS HOWLING CLOSE BY.

LAIKA

Now it is the humans turn to know what it is to be trapped.

FX: DOG BARKS.

LAIKA

No, my comrade, we will not kill them. Not yet. Not until we have what we need.

65. EXT. MOON.

FX: A LIGHT BREEZE. DOCTOR CLAMBERS OUT OF CAPSULE AND LANDS ON THE MOON. FOOTSTEPS ARE SOFT LIKE ON A SANDY BEACH.

DOCTOR

It's all right, Miss Petrov. The weather's fine.

FX: SHE CLAMBERS OUT TOO.

LARISA

We can breathe. There's oxygen on the moon!

DOCTOR

Provided for our benefit, I imagine. We're enclosed in another force field.

LARISA

Like the one that brought us down?

DOCTOR

Yes. And it's doing rather more than just providing us with air. By rights, standing here in direct sunlight, we should be being roasted alive. And blinded by the glare, for that matter.

LARISA

So we can walk on the surface of the moon without pressure suits. It's unbelievable. Miraculous.

DOCTOR

Yes, it is. A rare privilege.

LARISA

It's so... bleak. Like the Negev desert, just rocks as far as the horizon. And grey, there's no colour anywhere. But it's beautiful. So very beautiful.

DOCTOR

"Here is no water but only rock, rock and no water and the cracked earth, ringed by the flat horizon only."

66. EXT. ROOF.

MIKHAIL (VIA TANNOY)

(INTO TANNOY) Attention all residents of the Baikonur Cosmodrome. Until further notice, the curfew is extended to twenty-four hours. You are to remain in your homes. I repeat, remain in your homes.

FX: TANNOY OFF.

PERI

It's mostly dogs and cats, with some monkeys. Can't see Laika anywhere, though.

LEONID

She must be out there somewhere.

PERI

Then where is she? And how is she giving them instructions?

LEONID

They just seem to understand what she wants, by instinct.

PERI

...Like in the animal testing laboratory.

LEONID

What concerns me is what she wants with us. What was it she said? "We have another use for you."

PERI

Oh no. I think I might have an idea what it is.

FX: ROOF DOOR PULLED OPEN.

LEONID

Where are you going?

PERI

(LEAVING) To check something.

LEONID

Then I'm coming with you.

PERI

Can't get enough of me, huh?

67. EXT MOON.

FX: DOCTOR AND LARISA WALKING ACROSS MOON.

LARISA

This force-field, how large do you think it is?

DOCTOR

Not sure. But I get the impression it's moving with us, like a spotlight.

LARISA

Then whatever is creating it, knows we're here.

DOCTOR

Unnerving, isn't it? It's also exerting a gravitational influence. After all, we should be bounding across the lunar surface like slow-motion springboks.

LARISA

Instead it feels like we're still – (SEES SOMETHING) My God!

DOCTOR

What is it? (SEES) Oh no.

FX: THEY HALT.

LARISA

There's hardly anything of him left. Just a... mummified corpse in a spacesuit. (READS) Lieutenant Barney Schwartz.

DOCTOR

The environment would account for the skeletal condition of the remains. He's been repeatedly freeze-dried and baked.

LARISA

But why would he go outside, and remove his helmet?

DOCTOR

Makes you wonder, doesn't it? What could be so bad that death was the preferable option?

68. INT. CORRIDOR.

LEONID

Where are we going?

PERI

The animal testing laboratory.

LEONID

But that whole section of the building has been sealed off.

FX: THEY APPROACH. CAN HEAR ANIMAL NOISES, MONKEYS SQUAWKING.

PERI

I guess they got back in the way the same way they got out.

LEONID

We have to inform Captain Kozlov.

PERI

You do that, I want to see what they're doing in there.

LEONID

The security cameras are out of order. But there's an observation room, up the stairs.

PERI

Show me.

FX: THEY GO UPSTAIRS.

69. INT. MOONBASE.

FX: FOOTSTEPS ON METAL FLOOR. LOT OF ECHO.

DOCTOR

Hello? (BEAT) The lights are on but there's no-one home.

LARISA

If there was a radiation leak, they might have evacuated to a lower level.

FX: DOOR OPENS. DRIZZLING WATER.

DOCTOR

Except they were experimenting with using reed palms to re-oxygenate the air. And they're all in verdant health.

FX: DOOR CLOSES, THEY MOVE ON.

DOCTOR

Tell me, what exactly was this place built for?

LARISA

A shelter.

DOCTOR

From what?

LARISA

What do you think? Nuclear war.

FX: DOOR OPENS, THEY START CLIMBING DOWN STAIRS.

DOCTOR

So in the event of the balloon going up, the president and the first lady jump into a rocket to the moon?

LARISA

This base can maintain a viable minimum population. So that, in the event of a nuclear holocaust, they can wait until the Earth has recovered, and then return and rebuild civilisation.

DOCTOR

And you constructed your "Noah's ark" on the far side of the moon to avoid detection?

LARISA

Of course. Otherwise it would be an obvious target.

FX: THEY REACH BOTTOM OF STAIRS. HOWLING OF TWO DOGS.

LARISA

What's that?

FX: DOGS SCAMPERING CLOSER.

DOCTOR

I don't think we're alone down here. Look.

FX: DOGS BARKING ENTHUSIASTICALLY.

LARISA

Dogs! Two dogs!

DOCTOR

Well, they seem pleased to see us. (TO DOGS) Hello there!

LARISA

Doctor. Laika wasn't the only dog we sent into space.

DOCTOR

No?

LARISA

No. There were two more. Pchyolka and Mushka.

DOCTOR

And here they are... (TO DOG) Who's a cute little boy, then?

LARISA

They can't talk, Doctor.

DOCTOR

No. Not yet, at least.

FX: HE LETS THE DOGS GO, THEY BARK AND SCAMPER OFF.

LARISA

What do you mean?

DOCTOR

I have a suspicion that's why we've been kept alive. To provide these dogs with our vocal cords and brains.

LARISA

Doctor, this moonbase has its own rocket, we can use it to return to Earth.

DOCTOR

I don't think that'll be possible.

LARISA

What are you talking about? We can just go back the way we came
— (FINDS IT HARD TO MOVE AS SAYING THIS. FX: FEET SLIPPING)

DOCTOR

Easier said than done.

LARISA

It's like climbing up a slope, I keep sliding back!

DOCTOR

And yet the floor is perfectly level. Because the source of the
gravitational pull isn't below us, but at the other end of that
corridor.

LARISA

So we don't have any choice. We have to go on.

DOCTOR

Yes. And it's downhill all the way.

70. INT. OBSERVATION ROOM.

FX: PERI AND LEONID ENTER, CLOSE DOOR. ANIMALS CAN BE HEARD SHRIEKING, HOWLING ETC.

MAINTENANCE WORKER ONE AND TWO, OTHER HUMANS

(SUFFERING, FRIGHTENED, CRYING) Help me, please, stop, what do you want, I beg you, no, no... (AD-LIB)

LEONID

My God. They're laying them out like they're being prepared for some sort of medical operation.

PERI

Yes. They don't need them for food. They need them for spare parts.

FX: RADIO ON.

LEONID

This is Sergeant Kurakin calling Captain Kozlov. Over.

ALEXEI (VIA RADIO)

What is it, Sergeant? Over.

LEONID

Sir, it's Laika and the animals, they've made a sort of nest in the testing laboratory.

ALEXEI (VIA RADIO)

Where are you exactly?

LEONID

In the observation room, sir. Over.

ALEXEI (VIA RADIO)

Very good, I'm on my way. Out.

FX: RADIO OFF.

LEONID

Kristina. We should get out of here while we still have the chance.

PERI

Yes, you're right. I've seen enough.

FX: DOOR SLAMMED OPEN. ANIMALS BARKING, HOWLING, SPITTING.

PERI

(REACTS) Ah. Too late...

LAIKA

Kristina. You should not have come here.

71. INT. MOONBASE.

FX: DOCTOR ENTERS A LARGE CHAMBER. CRACKLE AND FIZZ OF ENERGY, WARPING REALITY. VOICES ARE GIVEN UNEARTHLY REVERSE ECHO.

DOCTOR

Well, I think we've found our alien.

LARISA

This is it? A black sphere floating in mid-air?

DOCTOR

Oh, it's rather more than just a sphere. Try reaching towards it.

FX: CRACKLE AND FIZZ OF ENERGY INCREASES.

LARISA

My arm, it's pulling... (PULLS BACK) It's trying to drag me into itself!

DOCTOR

A short-range gravitational field. I think what we're looking at is a black hole.

LARISA

(UNFAMILIAR WITH THE TERM) A 'black hole'!?

DOCTOR

(EXPLAINING) A collapsed star. You can see the light bending at the edge of the event horizon, turning red as the wavelength is stretched.

LARISA

But if this was a 'black hole' we'd be sucked in and crushed to a singularity in an instant.

DOCTOR

If it had occurred naturally, yes. But this was manufactured.

LARISA

Manufactured? What for?

DOCTOR

To act as a sentinel? Or a probe?

LARISA

A probe? You mean that thing is watching us?

DOCTOR

In a sense. It's certainly absorbing all the light.

LARISA

Along with all electromagnetic waves. Radio and television!

DOCTOR

Yes. All stored for future reference.

LARISA

Stored?

DOCTOR

A black hole doesn't destroy information. It's all retained in surface fluctuations of the event horizon. On a quantum level.

LARISA

What?

DOCTOR

Stephen Hawking will explain later. The principle is, any information which enters a black hole can, in theory, be retrieved.

LARISA

The crew of the moonbase! You think they might be in there?

DOCTOR

Possibly. They may even still be alive, albeit in a very flat, holographic state. (HAS IDEA) I wonder.

FX: DOCTOR DIGS THROUGH POCKETS.

LARISA

What are you doing?

DOCTOR

An intelligence test. This computer circuit's damaged but not beyond repair. Now, let's see what this probe makes of it. (THROWS CIRCUIT IN)

FX: BRIEF BURST OF FEEDBACK NOISE.

DOCTOR

(CATCHES CIRCUIT) Ha!

LARISA

It threw it back out!

DOCTOR

On the exact opposite trajectory. Newton's third law in action. But look. It's all been completely repaired. As good as new.

LARISA

This black hole... it can mend things?

DOCTOR

Yes. It's programmed not only to observe but also to intervene and improve. Which explains a great deal.

LARISA

Doctor. That thing, whatever it is, brought us here. It won't let us go. And sooner or later we'll both be dragged in.

DOCTOR

Yes. So if one's going to go, one might as well (RUNS) go out in style! (JUMPS) Wooooah!

FX: DOCTOR LEAPS INTO BLACK HOLE, FINAL SHOUT ECHOES AND FADES AS HE 'FALLS'. BURST OF FEEDBACK NOISE.

LARISA

Doctor! (BEAT) What sort of idiot jumps into a black hole?

72. INT. OBSERVATION ROOM.

FX: ANIMAL CHAOS CONTINUING. LEONID COCKS HIS GUN.

LEONID

Take one step closer and I'll shoot.

LAIKA

I believe you would, too. I can smell your fear.

PERI

Just let us go, and nobody need get hurt.

LAIKA

Humankind condemned me to die. Why should I show them any mercy?

PERI

Because that would make you better than them.

LAIKA

I don't want to be better than them. I want to take their place in the order of things.

LEONID

What are you talking about?

LAIKA

The natural order. You have used us for experimentation. Caged us. Tortured us. Stuck electrodes in our brains. But now it is time for a revolution. For animal-kind to rise up and take this world.

PERI

And the human race? What happens to them?

LEONID

Isn't it obvious? She wants us killed.

LAIKA

No. Not killed. You will be... farmed. Kept in cages, fed till you are mature, when your body parts can be harvested.

73. INT. BLACK HOLE.

FX: A WHOOSHING, CHAOTIC VOID. DOCTOR'S VOICE HEAVILY ECHOED. MYRIAD HAUNTING ALIEN EFFECTS.

DOCTOR

Hello? I just want to talk. To find out why you're here?

FX: A BRIEF BURST OF RANDOM RADIO: JAZZ, CLASSICAL MUSIC AND EARLY ROCK'N'ROLL. CROWDS AT FOOTBALL MATCHES, AUDIENCES LAUGHING MIXED IN WITH:

RADIO ANNOUNCER ONE:

- Finisterre and Biscay, winds moderate. Rockall, gale warning.

RADIO ANNOUNCER TWO:

And as Maurice Leyland steps up to the wicket -

DOCTOR

I see. You picked up our broadcasts, and came to investigate..

FX: ANOTHER BURST OF RADIO, ALONG WITH FEEDBACK SCREECH AND:

DOCTOR

Oh. Not just to investigate. To offer your assistance.

FX: ANOTHER BURST.

DOCTOR

If you deemed the human race worthy of your help.

FX: SOUND OF WHIMPERING DOG.

DOCTOR

But the first thing you found was Laika, alone and afraid.

FX: ANOTHER BURST OF CLIPS. WARFARE, SCREAMS OF TERROR, THE CROWD AT A NAZI RALLY HEILING IN UNISON, CRYING BABIES, AND ANIMALS IN DISTRESS, PLUS:

GERMAN RADIO ANNOUNCER:

- der verlust des lebens in der bombardieurng Dresdens -

DOCTOR

And you deemed the human race unworthy.

74. INT. OBSERVATION ROOM.

LAIKA

I have been granted a glorious vision. When animal-kind rules the Earth there will be no more war, no more suffering!

PERI

Well I don't think much of it so far.

LAIKA

You alone will be spared. But this man, we need.

LEONID

You try anything, and I'll kill you.

LAIKA

And if I am dead, I will not be able to prevent my comrades from ripping you both to pieces.

FX: GRENADE EXPLOSION. ANIMALS STARTLED.

PERI

What was that?

FX: GUNFIRE, ANIMALS FIGHTING BACK.

LEONID

Sounds like Captain Kozlov.

LAIKA

Comrades! Back to the laboratory! We must secure our territory. We can deal with these humans later.

FX: ANIMALS DO SO.

PERI

They're going. Leonid. This is our chance. Come on!

FX: THEY RUN OUT.

75. INT. BLACK HOLE.

FX: DOCTOR ADDRESSING ECHOING VOID FULL OF STRANGE SOUNDS.

DOCTOR

Listen to me. I'm not human, as I'm sure you've noticed, but I've spent a great deal of time on their planet, and over that time I've found there is far more to the human race than meets the eye. They are capable of great cruelty, yes, but they are also capable of great compassion. Look at your records of the recent war; see how many gave their lives in the name of ending tyranny. See how many are now working to preserve the planet, and all the life upon it. You've come to Earth in one of its most turbulent periods. It won't always be like this. I've seen the future and I know the human race will achieve great things. And when they do finally reach out to the stars it will be in the name of peace. You just have to give them a chance.

76. INT. CORRIDOR.

FX: ANIMALS ATTACKING.

ALEXEI

Men, on my word. Take aim. Fire!

FX: GUN FIRES, ANIMALS RETREAT BUT STILL AGITATED.

SOLDIER

It's no good, sir. Whenever we shoot one lot, there's another right behind them.

ALEXEI

Then you'll just have to keep shooting, won't you?

FX: PERI AND LEONID RUN IN, DODGING BULLETS.

LEONID

Sir!

ALEXEI

Hold your fire! Sergeant, Doctor Pushkin, quick, get out of the way!

PERI

(RUNNING) All right, going as fast as I can!

LEONID

Sir, you're going to have to retreat, seal this whole area off.

ALEXEI

Oh no. This ends now.

PERI

Leonid's right, there's too many of them, you won't stand a chance.

ALEXEI

Sergeant, escort Doctor Pushkin back to mission control.

LEONID

Yes, sir. Kristina!

FX: PERI AND LEONID GO.

ALEXEI

All right, men. Prepare to advance.

SOLDIER

Yes, sir!

FX: OMINOUS. SCRABBLING SOUND.

ALEXEI

What's that?

SOLDIER

It's coming from above us, sir. Something inside the ceiling.

FX: ROOF CRACKS OPEN. SQUEAKING AND SQUEALING.

ALEXEI

My God. Rats. It's full of rats! Back everyone! Back!

FX: SWARMING RATS ATTACK, ALONG WITH DOGS, CATS, MONKEYS.

SOLDIER

(BEING BITTEN) Get them off me! Get them off! (AAARGH)

FX: GUN FIRES.

ALEXEI

Stop firing, you fool, you're shooting our own men. (BITTEN)
No. Get off. Get off! (AAARGH)

FX: RATS SWARMING OVER HIM.

LAIKA

No. Do not kill this one, not yet. We need him taken alive.

77. INT. MOONBASE.

FX: DOCTOR EMERGES FROM BLACK HOLE, SIMILAR SOUND AS ENTERING.

DOCTOR

(FALLING THEN LANDING) Woah! Well, I've never done that before.

LARISA

Doctor. You're... alive.

DOCTOR

Cogito Ergo Sum, yes, I suppose I must be.

LARISA

The black hole released you.

DOCTOR

Yes. I offered it a deal.

LARISA

A deal?

DOCTOR

It has consented – very generously – to allow us to return to Earth in one of the American rockets.

LARISA

Why?

DOCTOR

To demonstrate that the human race is worth saving. Come on!

FX: THEY HEAD OFF.

78. INT. LABORATORY

FX: ANIMALS SHRIEKING.

ALEXEI

What are you doing? What do you want with me?

LAIKA

Your vocal cords. And your brain. (BEAT) Comrade, pass me the surgical knife, could you?

FX: MONKEY CHITTERS.

LAIKA

Thank you.

ALEXEI

Please. Don't do this. You don't have to do this.

LAIKA

Don't worry, human. You won't suffer for very long.

FX: BEGINS SURGERY.

ALEXEI

(SCREAMING IN AGONY)

FX: FADE OUT.

79. INT. CAPSULE.

FX: FADE IN. BUTTONS BEING PRESSED.

LARISA

Doctor. Are you sure you know what you're doing?

DOCTOR

Of course. Once you've flown one rocket, you've flown them all.

LARISA

How do I know I can trust you?

DOCTOR

Well, I could've left you behind on the moon, couldn't I? More to the point, how do I know I can trust you?

FX: BUTTON PRESSED. ROCKET BEGINS TO FIRE.

DOCTOR

I recommend you strap yourself in.

FX: SHE DOES SO.

DOCTOR

Five, four, three, two, one. Firing ascent rockets!

FX: ROCKETS FIRE DEAFENINGLY LOUD. CAPSULE SHAKES AND RATTLES.

DOCTOR

Lift off!

FX: FADE OUT.

80. INT. MISSION CONTROL

FX: FADE IN. DOOR OPENS.

MIKHAIL

Well, Sergeant?

LEONID

I've put the men on guard around mission control, as ordered.

MIKHAIL

So those things can't get in here?

LEONID

No, sir.

PERI

And we can't get out. And while this place is under quarantine, there's no hope of rescue.

MIKHAIL

We will survive. We have enough food and water to last - [us]

FX: RADIO CRACKLE

SCIENTIST

General Leonov!

MIKHAIL

What is it?

SCIENTIST

A radio signal, sir. Coming from the moon.

FX: RADIO SIGNAL BOOSTED.

DOCTOR (VIA RADIO)

This is Cosmonaut Kalashnikov calling Baikonur control.

PERI

The Doctor! He's alive!

MIKHAIL

Give that to me. (INTO RADIO) This is Baikonur control. What is your status, over?

FX: MOVE TO INSIDE CAPSULE.

81. INT. CAPSULE.

DOCTOR

Well, it's a long story, but we're both safe and well.

MIKHAIL (VIA RADIO)

Both of you? Is Miss Petrov with you?

DOCTOR

She is. Say hello, Larisa.

LARISA

Cosmonaut Petrov reporting.

PERI (VIA RADIO)

But Doctor. She's the one, the one who - [murdered]

DOCTOR

Yes, I know. But all that will have to wait until we've got back to Earth. How are things down there with you?

FX: WE MOVE TO THE OTHER SIDE OF THE WORLD.

82. INT. PENTAGON.

FX: UNLIKE MISSION CONTROL, THIS PLACE IS A HIVE OF ACTIVITY, COMPUTERS BLEEPING, TAPE SPOOLS WHIRRING, PHONES RINGING.

MIKHAIL (VIA RADIO)

Not good. There's been a — [breach of]

FX: RADIO SIGNAL BREAKS UP.

PATTERSON

What is this? What's going on? Lieutenant?

ANDREWS

The two soviet cosmonauts. They appear to have... taken command of one of our lunar rockets. US rocket Lincoln.

PATTERSON

Then they must know about moonbase Eisenhower.

ANDREWS

Yes, sir.

PATTERSON

Lieutenant, get me the president. This is a code red.

ANDREWS

Yes, sir.

FX: RADIO SIGNAL RETURNS.

DOCTOR (VIA RADIO)

I see. Well, all I can suggest is that you sit tight and wait for us to return.

FX: MOVE INSIDE CAPSULE.

83. INT. CAPSULE.

MIKHAIL (VIA RADIO)

But Doctor. At the moment, no-one can enter or leave the Cosmodrome.

DOCTOR

Ah, well, we'll just have to cross that bridge when we come to it. We've got three days, after all...

FX: FADE OUT.

84. INT. PENTAGON.

FX: FADE IN.

ANDREWS

General!

PATERSON

Yes, Lieutenant?

ANDREWS

The president has given the go-ahead for the hi-jacked rocket to be destroyed with the A one-nineteen, sir.

PATERSON

Very good. Commence launch preparations.

ANDREWS

Yes, sir. (BEAT) Sir, what actually is the A one-nineteen?

PATERSON

A nuclear missile we developed a few years ago, to fire at the moon as a show of strength. Now we have a new target, and just under seventy hours to get it ready for launch.

FX: FADE OUT.

85. INT. MISSION CONTROL.

FX: FADE IN.

LEONID

Don't worry, Kristina. Only a few more hours to wait, and they'll be safely back home.

PERI

Not before time. I've been going out of my mind, cooped up in here, I don't even know what day it is any more. Meanwhile Laika's had three days to do god knows what...

SCIENTIST

General Leonov, sir!

MIKHAIL

What is it? A problem with the rocket?

SCIENTIST

No, sir. We've just had a telegraph from the Kremlin on the emergency line. Apparently the Oko early warning system has just detected a nuclear missile launch in the United States.

MIKHAIL

What?

SCIENTIST

And according to intelligence reports, it's being fired at a US rocket which has been hi-jacked by two "Soviet cosmonauts".

MIKHAIL

What? We have to warn them.

86. INT. CAPSULE.

MIKHAIL (VIA RADIO)

Listen to me, the United States has just launched a nuclear missile directly at you.

DOCTOR

Ah. How charming of them.

LARISA

What do you propose we do about it? We don't have enough fuel for evasive manoeuvres.

DOCTOR

You're right. We're sitting ducks. General Mikhail, listen to me.

MIKHAIL (VIA RADIO)

I *am* listening.

DOCTOR

You have to contact the Kremlin. Tell them to call the American president on the hotline, and get him to call off the attack!

87. INT. PENTAGON.

ANDREWS

General Paterson!

PATERSON

Lieutenant?

ANDREWS

We've just had a message on the hotline from Moscow.

PATERSON

Moscow?

ANDREWS

Yes, sir. They're requesting the president abort the missile strike. They say they would regard any attack on the Cosmonauts as an act of war.

PATERSON

Goddamn commies. Lieutenant, where exactly is the president now?

ANDREWS

The motorcade left Love Field airbase about forty minutes ago, so he should be somewhere in downtown Dallas.

88. INT. CAPSULE.

MIKHAIL (VIA RADIO)

Doctor. The Kremlin has been in contact with the Pentagon, they're trying to contact the president now.

FX: RADIO OFF.

DOCTOR

Then we should be all right... unless. Oh no. Oh no. Larisa. What time is it?

LARISA

(CHECKS) Just coming up to... half past twelve in the morning, Kazakhstan time. Why?

DOCTOR

Today is November the twenty-third, nineteen sixty-three. And if it's half past twelve in Kazakhstan, then in Dallas, Texas, it's half past twelve in the afternoon on November the twenty-second.

LARISA

So, what does that mean?

DOCTOR

It means the president is never going to answer that call.

END OF PART THREE

PART FOUR

NO REPRISE

89. INT. PENTAGON.

ANDREWS

General Paterson. I... (TRAILS OFF)

PATERSON

What? You what. Andrews!

ANDREWS

I... don't know how to tell you this, sir, but -

PATERSON

Spit it out, man.

ANDREWS

We've just had an alert from one of the motorcade agents, sir.
It's the president. They say - they say he's been shot...

90. INT. CAPSULE.

DOCTOR

Assassinated. By a man called Lee Harvey Oswald. According to the history books at least. I've always meant to pop back and check.

LARISA

But how can you possibly know any of this?

DOCTOR

Because I've seen the future. A future that won't happen if that missile hits us and triggers a nuclear holocaust.

FX: RADIO INCOMING.

MIKHAIL (VIA RADIO)

Baikonur control calling US Rocket Lincoln.

DOCTOR

Receiving.

MIKHAIL (VIA RADIO)

We've just heard from the Kremlin. John F Kennedy has been shot.

LARISA

(QUIET) It's true. You were right!

DOCTOR

Then we can assume he's not going to be in any fit state to call off the missile attack.

MIKHAIL (VIA RADIO)

No. I am sorry.

FX: RADIO OFF.

DOCTOR

Unless. Why did the Americans fire at us in the first place? How did they know we were on board?

LARISA

I suppose they must've been monitoring our radio transmissions.

LARISA

Exactly. So you can tell them who you are.

LARISA

What? Oh no – [Doctor]

DOCTOR

If they knew this rocket was being piloted by one of their own agents, rather than a Soviet Cosmonaut –

LARISA

So when we return to Earth, the KGB can have me executed.

DOCTOR

What was it you said before? How it was people like you who had averted a third world war? Well, this is your chance. Prove it.

91. INT. PENTAGON.

ANDREWS

We've just had confirmation. President Kennedy was pronounced dead at the Parkland Hospital five minutes ago.

PATERSON

Then heaven help us all. What about the Vice President?

ANDREWS

Special agents are moving him to Air Force One right now.

PATERSON

Has he been sworn in yet?

ANDREWS

Don't know, sir, I don't think so -

FX: RADIO INCOMING.

LARISA (VIA RADIO)

This is US rocket Lincoln calling the Pentagon. Repeat. This is US rocket Lincoln calling the Pentagon, please respond.

PATERSON

What the hell?

ANDREWS

The hi-jacked rocket, they're hailing us, sir!

PATERSON

(FX: ACTIVATES RADIO) This is General Paterson. Would you mind telling us what the hell you're doing with our rocket?

LARISA (VIA RADIO)

First, abort the missile that you've fired at us.

PATERSON

Why, do you want to surrender? I'm afraid you've left it a bit late to come in from the cold, 'comrade'.

LARISA (VIA RADIO)

I am not working for the Soviets. I am agent Topaz working for the US Defence Intelligence Agency.

ANDREW

Sir, Topaz is the code-name of one of our operatives installed in the Baikonur Cosmodrome. A woman using the name -

LARISA (VIA RADIO)
Larisa Petrov.

PATERSON
Lieutenant, cancel the missile strike.

ANDREW
Sir?

PATERSON
Cancel it! I'll take full responsibility.

ANDREW
Yes, sir!

FX: MOVE TO CAPSULE.

92. INT. CAPSULE

PATERSON: (VIA RADIO)

We'll detonate the rocket before impact, it's the best we can do.

LARISA

Thank you, General. (FX: RADIO OFF) We'd better move into the re-entry capsule. The blast won't affect us but the radiation might.

DOCTOR

Indeed, yes... Ladies first?

FX: CLAMBERING.

LARISA

(CLAMBERING) I hope you're grateful. Everyone at Baikonur now knows I'm a US agent.

DOCTOR

(CLAMBERING) Oh, Larisa. For what it's worth, I'm pretty sure they already knew.

FX: THE ROCKET STREAKS ACROSS SPACE AND EXPLODES. FADE TO SILENCE, THEN FADE UP ON...

93. INT. MISSION CONTROL.

PERI

Why haven't we heard anything?

MIKHAIL

I imagine the Americans have other concerns right now.

PERI

I meant from the Doctor.

LEONID

We heard that traitor Larisa talking to the Pentagon. They said they would abort the missile strike.

PERI

Yes, but that was five minutes – [ago]

FX: RADIO CRACKLE.

DOCTOR (VIA RADIO)

Cosmonaut Kalashnikov calling Baikonur control.

PERI

Doctor!

MIKHAIL

Baikonur control receiving you. What is your status?

DOCTOR (VIA RADIO)

We're both fine. All systems functioning normally!

PERI

You could've let us know earlier.

DOCTOR (VIA RADIO)

Sorry about that. The radiation from the blast caused a temporary radio black-out. Should be all right now.

MIKHAIL

You're still on the same return trajectory?

DOCTOR (VIA RADIO)

Yes. By my calculations, we should be coming down about thirty kilometres south of you.

FX: RADIO OFF.

LEONID

You were right, Kristina. The Doctor is coming back.

PERI

Yes, but if we can't find a way of getting to the capsule, what good will it do? They'll freeze to death!

MIKHAIL

While we remain trapped here, at the mercy of Laika and her followers..

94. INT. LABORATORY.

NOTE: **ALEXEI** IS NOW A MONKEY WITH ALEXEI'S VOICE.

FX: ANIMALS ALL ABOUT, WITH SOME HUMAN TALKING — MALE VOICES.

LAIKA

How many more remain to be given mind and voice, my comrade?

ALEXEI

Four of my fellow rhesus monkeys, seven guard dogs and one domestic cat. But we have used all the captured humans.

LAIKA

Then we shall just have to acquire some more.

ALEXEI

But they have weapons, sticks that spit fire.

LAIKA

They are called guns. Humans need them because they are too feeble to kill with their own claws and teeth. The soldiers that attacked us had guns. Have their weapons collected and brought here.

ALEXEI

Yes, comrade Laika.

LAIKA

And I will instruct you on how they are to be used.

FX: FADE OUT.

95. INT. CANTEEN.

FX: PERI OPENING DRAWERS, COLLECTING CUTLERY.

LEONID

Kristina?

PERI

Oh, it's you. I was just fixing myself breakfast. You can keep me company, if you like.

FX: THEY SIT.

LEONID

You must be glad that your friend is safe.

PERI

'Glad' doesn't get near it. All this, it's kind of brought it home to me. What would I do without him?

LEONID

I think there are others who you could also depend on.

PERI

Are you volunteering your services?

LEONID

(LAUGHS) My caution makes me clumsy. But, yes, when all this is over, I would like to see you again.

PERI

I'd like to see you too.

LEONID

I could show you the sights of Kirov of which there are at least two. Maybe you could show me your home.

PERI

My home? If they could see me now. They say everyone remembers where they were when Kennedy was shot, and where was I? In the Soviet space centre, under siege from a pack of dogs.

LEONID

What do you mean, everyone remembers?

PERI

I mean, everyone will remember. Because it's one of those moments when you suddenly realise just how fragile life is. If

a President can be shot down in the street in broad daylight
how can any of us ever feel safe ever again?

LEONID

You find someone, you hold them close. And life goes on.

PERI

(SHE KISSES HIM) For a clumsy guy, you have a knack for saying
the right thing.

LEONID

I should get back, General Leonov will think I have fallen
asleep at my post.

PERI

Sleep? That would be a fine thing, I've had about three hours
in the last three days.

LEONID

Well, there's some knockout gas in the medical bay if you're
desperate.

PERI

Yes. (BEAT) What did you say?

96. INT. CAPSULE.

LARISA

Altitude one hundred kilometres. Ninety-nine point five.
Velocity twenty-nine thousand kilometres per hour.

MIKHAIL (VIA RADIO)

Please confirm trajectory.

FX: BUTTONS PRESSED.

LARISA

Minus two degrees. Committed to re-entry corridor. No turning
back now.

MIKHAIL (VIA RADIO)

Good luck to you both.

DOCTOR

We might need it. External temperature increasing. We've
entered the Earth's atmosphere.

FX: EXTERNAL BUFFETING INCREASES.

LARISA

Velocity twenty-eight thousand. Twenty seven.

DOCTOR

Time we strapped ourselves in. Things might get a little bumpy!

FX: MOVE TO MISSION CONTROL.

97. INT. MISSION CONTROL.

FX: GADGET BLEEPS.

MIKHAIL (INTO RADIO)

We have you on radar. Dead on course.

DOCTOR (VIA RADIO)

(BUFFETED) That's not a very comforting expression right now!

LARISA (VIA RADIO)

(BUFFETED) Velocity down to twenty-five thousand. G-force now at three g. Three point four. Five.

MIKHAIL

Hold on. You'll be home and dry, soon enough.

LARISA (VIA RADIO)

(BUFFETED) And then what will you do with me? Hand me over to –

FX: RADIO STATIC, SILENCE.

MIKHAIL

Baikonur Control calling re-entry capsule, please respond.

DOCTOR (VIA RADIO)

(BUFFETED) Larisa's blacked out. G-force too great. Not sure how long I'll be – [able to]

FX: RADIO STATIC. DOOR OPENS, PERI ENTERS WITH LEONID.

MIKHAIL

Cosmonaut Kalashnikov. Please respond. Please respond!

PERI

What's happening?

MIKHAIL

They've just commenced re-entry.

PERI

So why aren't they answering?

MIKHAIL

An ionisation black-out. Don't worry, we should regain contact when the parachute deploys. When their problems really begin.

LEONID

General. Doctor Pushkin has a suggestion how we might get be able to get out of here.

MIKHAIL

Go on.

PERI

We still have power. And we're still breathing because of the air-conditioning system, right?

MIKHAIL

You're not suggesting we try to escape through the ventilation ducts?

PERI

No. What I'm suggesting is, we pump sleeping gas through the air-conditioning system to knock all the animals out.

MIKHAIL

What about us? Won't we be knocked out too?

PERI

No. There are some spacesuits in research area four, with the prototype lunar landing capsule. They have their own oxygen supply!

MIKHAIL

It's an idea. And if we used enough gas in sufficient concentration we could put the animals to sleep permanently.

LEONID

Sir, there aren't enough spacesuits for everyone in the building. A lethal amount for the animals would be lethal for them too.

PERI

You only have to knock them out, you don't have to kill them.

MIKHAIL

Yes, you're right... Once they're out cold, we can just shoot them where they lie.

98. INT. LABORATORY.

FX: ANIMALS IN B/G, CLICKING AND CHECKING GUNS.

LAIKA

All the monkeys are now armed?

ALEXEI

We are, comrade Laika.

LAIKA

Then it is time we went on the attack. (ORATION) Comrades! This world is ours for the taking. And we will take it, by tooth and by claw, by sweat and by the blood of our enemies!

FX: ANIMALS CHEER – SOME OF THEM ANIMAL CHEERS, SOME HUMAN.

LAIKA

Do not kill the defenceless. We shall use them to give the rest of us mind and voice. But to those who would kill us, those who have captured and tortured us, we will show no mercy. Vengeance will be absolute. In the name of animal-kind!

ANIMALS AND ALEXEI

Animal-kind!

LAIKA

(QUIETER) Let the natural order be restored.

99. INT. RESEARCH AREA.

FX: PERI AND LEONID MOVING CANISTERS.

PERI

(EFFORT) Remind me again why I suggested this.

LEONID

(PASSING CANISTER) Here. Because we don't have any choice.

FX: PULLS OPEN VENT.

PERI

Good point. Okay. Here goes.

FX: HISSING OF GAS.

LEONID

Shouldn't be long till it has an effect.

FX: DOOR OPENS.

MIKHAIL

You've started pumping the gas?

LEONID

Yes, sir.

MIKHAIL

Not before time. It looks like the animals are moving to attack.

100. INT. CORRIDOR.

FX: ANIMALS MOVING, SNARLING, HISSING.

LAIKA

This is it, my comrades. That door is all that stands between us and the humans. Monkeys! Proceed through the air vents and force it open from the inside!

ALEXEI & OTHER SOLDIERS

Yes, comrade Laika!

FX: ANIMALS SNIFFING, HOWLING.

LAIKA

What is the matter with them?

ALEXEI

They say they are feeling sick. They say their heads hurt.

LAIKA

Gas! The humans must be using gas!

ALEXEI

I can't smell anything.

FX: ANIMALS HOWLING SUBSIDES AS THEY START FALLING ASLEEP.

LAIKA

Carbon dioxide. We must move outside, my comrades. Outside! Quickly!

ALEXEI

It's too late... can barely stay awake...

LAIKA

Then I will carry you, my comrade. We shall continue this fight together, you and I!

101. INT. RESEARCH AREA.

FX: GAS STILL HISSING IN B/G. SPACESUIT HELMET PLACED ON.

LEONID (HELMET ON)
You okay in there?

PERI (HELMET ON)
I can breathe, which is the main thing.

FX: RADIO ON.

SCIENTIST (VIA RADIO)
General Leonov?

MIKHAIL (HELMET ON)
Yes, what is it?

SCIENTIST (VIA RADIO)
The gas, it's working. The animals are collapsing But it's starting to affect us up here, sir.

MIKHAIL (HELMET ON)
Hold on. I'll be with you in a few minutes with some oxygen.

FX: RADIO OFF.

MIKHAIL (HELMET ON)
You can turn off the gas now, it's done its work.

LEONID (HELMET ON)
Yes, sir.

FX: HISSING STOPS.

MIKHAIL (HELMET ON)
Sergeant Kurakin. Take Doctor Pushkin to rendezvous with the re-entry capsule.

LEONID (HELMET ON)
Very good, sir. Come on, Kristina, we can get out through the quarantine area.

PERI (HELMET ON)
Easier said than done inside this thing..

FX: FADE OUT.

102. INT. CAPSULE.

FX: HISSING OF STEAM.

LARISA

(WAKING) What happened?

DOCTOR

The deceleration g-force. Knocked us both out.

FX: SWITCHES PRESSED.

LARISA

Parachute deployed. Altitude five hundred metres. Four ninety.

DOCTOR

Yes, soon be back on solid ground.

LARISA

The solid ground that's currently rushing up to meet us.

FX: RADIO ON.

MIKHAIL (VIA RADIO)

Baikonur control calling re-entry capsule. Baikonur control –

FX: SWITCH PRESSED.

DOCTOR

Receiving you. We should be landing in just over a minute.

MIKHAIL (VIA RADIO)

We have your location on radar. Sergeant Kurakin and Doctor Pushkin are already on their way to meet you.

DOCTOR

You managed to get out of mission control? What about Laika and her followers?

MIKHAIL (VIA RADIO)

No longer a problem, Doctor. We had them... put to sleep.

103. INT. JEEP.

FX: PERI AND LEONID CLIMB INSIDE, DOOR SLAMS. THEY'RE NO LONGER WEARING SPACESUITS.

PERI

(SHIVERS) One thing you can say for those spacesuits, at least they keep out the cold.

LEONID

Give the engine a few minutes, we'll warm up soon enough.

FX: LEONID STARTS ENGINE.

PERI

You're sure the animals are all still alive?

LEONID

For the time being. I don't know why you are so concerned about them. They're only animals.

PERI

It's that attitude that kind of got us into trouble into the first place. Watch out -!

FX: JEEP SWERVES.

LEONID

Was that - was that Laika?

PERI

I don't know, it's too dark, it was moving too quickly.

FX: RADIO ON.

MIKHAIL (VIA RADIO)

Sergeant Leonid, do you read me, over?

LEONID

I read you, sir. We made it outside and are now proceeding down Sovetskoy Armii. Over.

MIKHAIL (VIA RADIO)

Excellent. The re-entry capsule has just come to ground, at coordinates forty-five three by sixty-three three. Over.

LEONID

Heading there now, sir. Out.

104. INT. JEEP.

FX: JEEP HALTS, LEONID AND PERI CLIMB OUT. SCRUNCHING THROUGH SNOW. EXTREMELY WINDY.

LEONID

Looks like they had a rough landing.

PERI

But they're okay. They have to be.

LEONID (INTO RADIO)

(INTO RADIO) Sergeant Kurakin calling capsule. Approaching you now. Over.

FX: CAPSULE HATCH OPENS.

DOCTOR

Ah, there you are. We were starting to wonder where you'd got to!

PERI

Doctor! You're all right!

DOCTOR

Well, to coin a phrase, we did come down to Earth with a bump but we're still in one piece. Aren't we, Larisa?

LARISA

Yes. Must be our lucky day.

LEONID

Larisa Petrov. I am placing you under arrest as an enemy of the soviet union.

DOCTOR

That can wait until we're back in the warm. We've had rather a long journey.

FX: FADE OUT.

105. INT. MISSION CONTROL.

LEONID (VIA RADIO)

Have just recovered the Doctor and Miss Pushkin, sir. Over.

MIKHAIL

Good work, sergeant. Take them to the residential block and have Miss Pushkin locked in a storage room. Over.

LEONID (VIA RADIO)

A pleasure, sir. Out.

FX: RADIO OFF, THEN INCOMING CALL.

SOLDIER (VIA RADIO)

Calling General Leonov –

MIKHAIL

Yes, what is it, over?

SOLDIER (VIA RADIO)

Number two missile silo, sir. The dog Laika, it's got inside. Over.

MIKHAIL

How the hell did it do that?

SCIENTIST (VIA RADIO)

Not sure. There's a monkey with it and –

FX: GUNSHOT. RADIO STATIC.

MIKHAIL

Missile silo, respond. Respond. Respond!

106. INT. JEEP.

FX: IN TRANSIT.

DOCTOR

You put all the animals to sleep? With knock-out gas?

LEONID

We didn't have much choice, Doctor. It was either us or them.

DOCTOR

But they're still alive, that's the main thing.

FX: RADIO ON.

MIKHAIL (VIA RADIO)

Sergeant Kurakin, do you read? Over.

LEONID

(INTO RADIO) I hear you, sir. Over.

MIKHAIL (VIA RADIO)

I need you to head to number two missile silo at once. Over.

LEONID

Yes, sir. What for? Over.

MIKHAIL (VIA RADIO)

That dog Laika has broken in, killing the guards on duty.

Heaven knows what she's trying to do. Over.

LEONID

On my way, sir. Out.

FX: RADIO OFF.

DOCTOR

Sergeant. What exactly is in this missile silo?

LEONID

Half a dozen Voskhod three-K-V I-C-B-Ms.

DOCTOR

Is mission control on the way? Can you drop us off?

LEONID

It is, we're nearly there. Don't you want to come with me?

DOCTOR

I'll join you just as soon as I can. There are others who need saving first. And I'll need Larisa's help.

LEONID

If you insist.

LARISA

I clearly have no say in the matter.

PERI

Doctor. I'll go with Leonid.

DOCTOR

Are you sure?

PERI

I'm the only one that Laika listens to. She won't hurt me.

DOCTOR

Very well. Try not to harm her, if at all possible.

FX: JEEP HALTS

LEONID

This is as close as we get.

FX: DOORS OPEN. DOCTOR AND LARISA CLIMB OUT.

DOCTOR

Thank you, Sergeant. Good luck.

LEONID

And you, Doctor.

PERI

Bye.

FX: DOORS CLOSE, JEEP MOVES ON.

LEONID

What do you think the Doctor meant, others who need saving?

PERI

How am I supposed to know? You just concentrate on driving.

107. INT. FOOD STORE.

FX: DOOR OPENS, DOCTOR STARTS PULLING CONTAINERS OFF SHELVES.

LARISA

The food store? Doctor, what exactly are we doing here?

DOCTOR

Keeping a bargain I made with the probe, making sure no more innocent creatures are killed.

LARISA

It might help if you told me what you're looking for?

DOCTOR

Meat. Fresh, raw, meat!

LARISA

Over here. Beef, lamb. Pork chops. What do you want them for?

DOCTOR

Laika's followers. They may have been augmented with extra intelligence but I doubt they can resist the prospect of a free lunch.

LARISA

So... you're gonna feed them?

DOCTOR

(GATHERING ITEMS) Not quite. I'm going to appeal to their baser instincts.

108. INT. SILO.

FX: HUGE, ECHOEY CHAMBER. FOOTSTEPS ON METAL.

LEONID

There she is! Up on the rocket access gantry!

PERI

Laika?

LEONID

Yes. But what's she doing up there?

PERI

Nothing good, I guess we can be sure of that.

FX: CROSS-FADE TO THE TOP OF THE LADDER WHERE BUTTONS ARE BEING PRESSED.

LAIKA

The warhead is armed?

ALEXEI

It is, comrade Laika.

LAIKA

Then begin the countdown. Fifteen minutes will give us time to get out of range of the explosion.

FX: BUTTON PRESSED. BLEEPING BEGINS.

ALEXEI

Yes, comrade. Fifteen minutes to detonation.

109. INT. CORRIDOR.

FX: ANIMALS STIRRING. DOCTOR AND LARISA ARRIVE.

LARISA

Doctor, they're waking up! The effects of the gas must be wearing off.

DOCTOR

But they're still groggy, luckily for us. Are you ready with the meat?

LARISA

As I'll ever be.

DOCTOR

Okay. We have to make a trail to one of the jeeps, then we'll drive dragging a couple of lamb chops behind us. Like a couple of Pied Pipers!

LARISA

You realise this idea is utterly ludicrous and cannot possibly work?

DOCTOR

Miss Petrov, those are my favourite kind of ideas.

110. INT. SILO.

FX: RATTLING GANTRY, LADDER, BLEEPING COUNTDOWN.

LEONID

(REACHES TOP) That's enough, Laika! Don't move or I'll shoot.

LAIKA

You're too late, human. Far too late.

PERI

(REACHES TOP) We're not here to hurt you. We're here to help you. Just tell us what you want.

LAIKA

What I want is justice. For myself and my comrades.

PERI

Justice?

LAIKA

To make sure that no others suffer as I have suffered. To end the work that is done here. The experimentation. The creation of weapons like these.

LEONID

(REALISES) The warheads. You're going to set off one of the nuclear warheads.

LAIKA

The entire town will be incinerated in a ball of radioactive fire. Humankind will die by its own hand!

PERI

Laika. You don't have to do this.

LAIKA

I'm sorry you will die, Kristina. But at least it will be instantaneous.

LEONID

It's not going to happen. Move away from the controls. I don't want to have to shoot you, but I will if you don't move away.

LAIKA

Oh, human. You think I came here alone? Kozlov? Fire!

ALEXEI

Yes, comrade!

FX: GUN FIRES.

LEONID

(DIES)

PERI

Leonid...?! (REALISATION; DISTRAUGHT) You killed him!

LAIKA

We showed him mercy. He did not feel any pain.

PERI

He didn't deserve to die. To think I pitied you. You should've been left for dead in that rocket.

ALEXEI

Shall I execute the female too, comrade Laika?

LAIKA

No. She'll be joining him soon enough. Now it is time we were gone. We will leave the female to grieve for her mate.

FX: GUN COCKED.

MIKHAIL

(REACHES TOP) You're not going anywhere, Laika.

LAIKA

You. The one who placed me in the rocket. The one who condemned me to death!

MIKHAIL

What else are dumb animals good for?

LAIKA

You left me alone and afraid. You left me in pain. Tortured me. Me, and countless of my comrades!

MIKHAIL

Your comrades?

FX: GUN COCKED.

ALEXEI

Remember me, General?

MIKHAIL

(AMUSED) A rhesus monkey. With the voice of Captain Kozlov!

ALEXEI

Not just his voice. His gun too.

FX: TWO GUNS FIRE.

ALEXEI (KILLED)

MIKHAIL (HIT)

(IN PAIN) My leg – my leg!

FX: MIKHAIL DROPS GUN, IT CLANGS AWAY.

LAIKA

Not so brave now, general. Now that you are a defenceless creature. How does it feel, to stare death in the face?

MIKHAIL

No, keep back! Keep back!

FX: LAIKA ATTACKS, DOG-LIKE, GROWLING, SNAPPING, SNARLING.

PERI

Laika, stop!

MIKHAIL

(BEING SAVAGED) Kristina, get my gun, shoot her!

PERI

I can't reach it, it fell off the gantry.

MIKHAIL

No, Laika, please, please I beg you –

LAIKA

No mercy to humans! (LAUNCHES HERSELF AGAIN)

LEONID, LAIKA

(SCREAMS AS THEY FALL TO THEIR DEATHS)

FX: SCREAMS DIE AWAY, THEN A DISTANT THUD. BLEEPING CONTINUES.

111. INT. JEEP.

FX: JEEP APPROACHING SLOWLY THROUGH WIND AND SNOW.

LARISA

Where exactly are we going?

DOCTOR

(DRIVING) Not far from where we discovered Miss Cherlin and Doctor Pushkin and Doctor Kalashnikov, remember them?

LARISA

Of course, I'm not likely to forget.

DOCTOR

Preying on your conscience, are they? Watch what you're doing, the meat won't leave a scent if it doesn't make contact with the ground.

FX: ANIMALS HOWLING.

LARISA

We've nearly run out. And they've nearly caught us up.

DOCTOR

Which is just as well, because here we are.

FX: CAR HALTS.

LARISA

Why here? There's nothing here apart from... a little wooden hut.

112. INT. SILO.

FX: COUNTDOWN BLEEPING. PERI TRYING BUTTONS TO NO AVAIL.

PERI_

Four minutes. Three minutes fifty-five. (TRYING BUTTONS) There must be some way of stopping this thing.

FX: TARDIS LANDS, DOOR OPENS.

DOCTOR

Peri! Are you all right?

PERI

Doctor, you're too late.

DOCTOR

What do you mean? What happened?

PERI

Leonid, Laika had him killed, then she attacked the general, and they fell.

DOCTOR

I'm very sorry.

PERI

But before she died she set the warhead to explode.

DOCTOR

What? Hold on, I'll just jump (JUMPS) over to you.

PERI

(PUTTING ON BRAVE FACE) Neat trick, by the way, materialising the TARDIS in mid-air.

DOCTOR

Would you rather I spent five minutes climbing a ladder? Now, let's see...

PERI

Can you stop the countdown?

DOCTOR

No. It's been quadratic-locked. Laika must've been a mathematical genius.

PERI

So what do we do?

DOCTOR

Another 'neat trick'. Back to the TARDIS.

PERI

You're not expecting me to jump over there?

DOCTOR

It's only a couple of feet.

PERI

Across, yes. But it's a long way down.

FX: ANIMALS INSIDE TARDIS.

PERI

What have you got in there, by the way?

DOCTOR

Oh, I wouldn't worry. They're all very well-fed. Now, are going to jump or not?

PERI

All right, I'm jumping, I'm jumping. (JUMPS) Maybe next time, you could land it a bit closer, that's all.

DOCTOR

One, two -(JUMPS) Of all the ungrateful -

FX: DOORS CLOSE, TARDIS TAKES OFF.

113. INT. TARDIS CONTROL ROOM.

FX: DOCTOR AT CONTROLS, PRESSING BUTTONS. CONTROL ROOM IS FULL OF DOGS, CATS AND MONKEYS, BARKING, MEWING, HISSING, WHOOPING.

PERI

All the animals from the cosmodrome, you brought them in here?

DOCTOR

Evidently. Call me Noah. I should warn you, there might be a little cleaning up to do afterwards.

PERI

But why? What have you done it for?

LARISA

Yes, I'd quite like to know the answer to that too.

DOCTOR

You'll see. But first there's the small matter of this nuclear warhead to deal with -

FX: BUTTONS PRESSED, WARPING SOUND.

PERI

What are you doing?

FX: TARDIS LANDING.

DOCTOR

Materializing us around the warhead itself. It's now in one of the TARDIS store-rooms.

PERI

So when it blows up, it'll blow up in here?

DOCTOR

It shouldn't come to that. I've placed it in a time-dilation field to slow the countdown.

FX: BUTTONS PRESSED, TARDIS TAKES OFF AGAIN.

PERI

Right. So we can eject it once we're in space?

DOCTOR

That is one option, yes. But I have a better idea...

114. INT. MOONBASE.

FX: THE TARDIS LANDS NEARBY THE BLACK HOLE. DOOR OPENS.

PERI

Where are we?

LARISA

One of the lower levels of the American moonbase.

PERI

The what? (BEAT) And what's that!?

DOCTOR

A black hole. The cause of all our problems.

PERI

That's a black hole? It's a bit small, isn't it?

DOCTOR

Big enough. Now, if you'll excuse me for a moment. (JUMPS)

FX: DOCTOR JUMPS INTO BLACK HOLE.

PERI

What the – Doctor! Where did he go?

115. INT. BLACK HOLE.

FX: WEIRD EFFECTS AS BEFORE.

DOCTOR

I've brought all the animals that were affected by Laika with me. If they remain on Earth, they will be destroyed. Not as a result of human cruelty, but your interference.

FX: BLACK HOLE RESPONDS.

DOCTOR

It's time you took responsibility for your actions. Your presence nearly caused the extinction of life on Earth. Leave now. Take those whose lives you have changed with you. Take them to those who sent you, and give them a new life.

116. INT. MOONBASE.

FX: DOGS, CATS AND MONKEYS ENTERING THE BLACK HOLE.

PERI

I don't believe it. They're all walking into the black hole. It's swallowing them up!

LARISA

So that's why the Doctor brought them here.

FX: DOCTOR EMERGES FROM BLACK HOLE.

DOCTOR

Did somebody mention my name?

PERI

Doctor. What's going on here? What did you do?

DOCTOR

I have persuaded our stygian friend here to leave, taking these poor animals with it.

FX: TWO DOGS RUN PAST, BARKING JOYFULLY.

DOCTOR

Along with these two scamps! Pchylolka and Mushka. Off you go!

FX: THEY DISAPPEAR INTO BLACK HOLE, THE LAST TO DO SO.

LARISA

So you convinced it that humanity was worth saving?

DOCTOR

Not me. It's been monitoring events on Earth over the past few hours. Which have given it some pause for thought.

PERI

The Kennedy Assassination?

DOCTOR

The whole world united in grief and compassion. And it saw you, Miss Petrov, risking your life to prevent a nuclear war.

LARISA

Just doing my job. Doctor. Where exactly is this alien probe going?

DOCTOR

Back to its world of origin, whereabouts unknown. Why?

LARISA

I wonder if it has room for one more passenger. I don't much fancy facing a KGB execution squad. (JUMPS) Goodbye, Doctor!

DOCTOR:

Larisa, no!

FX: LARISA SWALLOWED UP BY BLACK HOLE.

PERI

She's gone!

DOCTOR

Yes. But she's not alone in there. She has the crew of this moonbase and a hundred-odd animals to keep her company.

FX: FINAL BURST OF BLACK-HOLE FEEDBACK.

PERI

It's disappeared, like it just... shrank away to nothing.

DOCTOR

Voyaging, through strange seas of thought... Come on, Peri. we have a nuclear warhead to dispose of.

117. INT. TARDIS CONTROL ROOM.

FX: DOCTOR PRESSING BUTTONS.

PERI

You're dematerialising – leaving the warhead in the moonbase?

DOCTOR

Well, do you remember reading in your history books about an American base on the moon in nineteen sixty-three?

PERI

No.

DOCTOR

Exactly.

PERI

But – [if it was]

DOCTOR

It's already done. (FX: SCANNER) Watch.

FX: BASE EXPLODES. SOUND IS REVERBERATING THROUGH THE GROUND RATHER THAN THE ATMOSPHERE SO VERY DEEP AND BASSY.

PERI

But won't the Americans blame the Soviets for blowing it up?

DOCTOR

I don't see how. Out here on the far side of the moon, they won't even have detected the explosion.

PERI

But when they send another rocket to the far side of the moon –

DOCTOR

All they'll see is one more crater amongst thousands. The result of a random meteorite impact.

PERI

So no-one will ever set foot on the moon again until Neil Armstrong, in nineteen-sixty-nine?

DOCTOR

Yes. Do you know, Peri, I've always meant to go and watch...

FX: BUTTONS PRESSED.

118. INT. TARDIS.

FX: BRIEF BURST OF RADIO, AS CLOSE TO ARCHIVE AS POSSIBLE:

ARMSTRONG: (VIA RADIO)

Here men from the planet Earth first set foot upon the moon, July nineteen-sixty-nine, A.D. We came in peace for all mankind.

FX: WE MOVE TO INSIDE TARDIS.

PERI

So now we know the truth. The moon landing was faked!

DOCTOR

Faked? Not at all. Neil Armstrong really did walk on the moon.

PERI

Yes, but he wasn't the first. We know there'd been dozens of people there before him, enough to build a whole moonbase!

DOCTOR

Ah. But the world doesn't know that.

PERI

So this is really just a big publicity stunt? For the benefit of the rest of mankind?

DOCTOR

Not just mankind. No. It's a message to the rest of the universe. After all, you never know who might be listening...

END OF PART FOUR